



# yourmaidstone

THE ONLINE NEWSPAPER FOR MAIDSTONE, MALLING, LARKFIELD AND SURROUNDING VILLAGES

www.kentnews.co.uk

Issue no 214

## NHS vow at private plans for Maidstone Hospital

By Chris Britcher

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HEALTH bosses at Maidstone Hospital have vowed there will be no impact on NHS patient services after it unveiled plans for a private patient facility on the site.

The Maidstone and Tunbridge Wells NHS Trust confirmed it is in the "very early stages" of developing a private facility in or outside of the existing hospital – following in the footsteps of a similar scheme in place at the state-of-the-art new Tunbridge Wells Hospital at Pembury.

But trust chief executive Glenn Douglas promised this week the future development will "have no impact whatso-

ever" on NHS services.

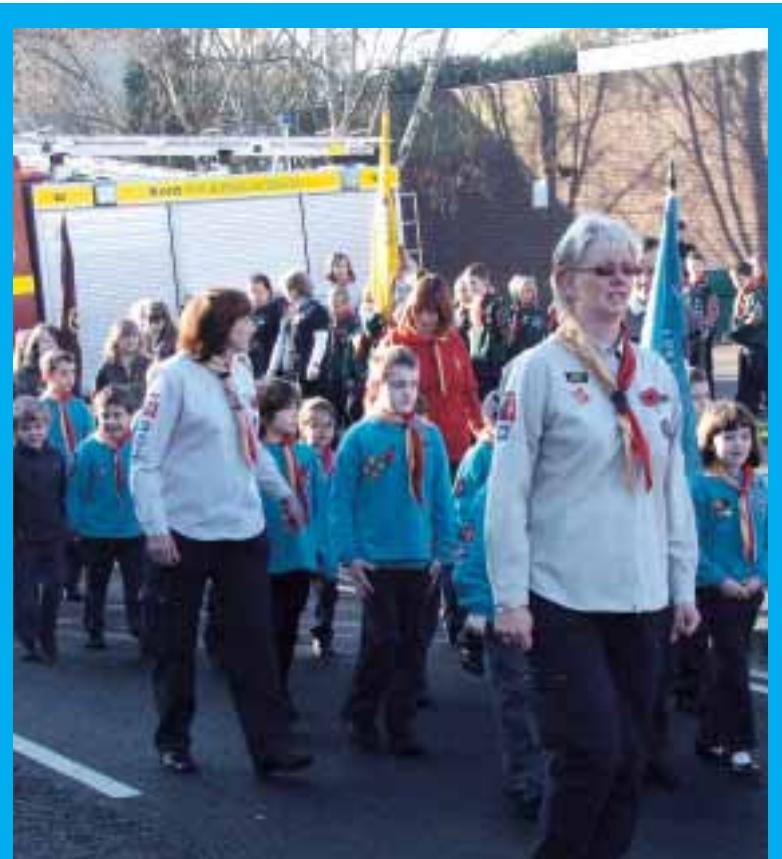
By offering private facilities, it can generate additional revenues, with the existing scheme in Pembury set to eventually return some £4m a year.

Mr Douglas said: "I can absolutely say that a facility of this nature will have no impact at all on NHS services and patients who use them."

"NHS patients remain our priority. A facility of this kind will provide us with additional income to invest in our priority – NHS care for NHS patients."

The chief executive has also written to GP leads to assure them that will remain the case and to involve them from the outset in development.

The trust says any scheme is still in "its infancy".



## Generations step out to remember them

BIG CROWDS FLOCK FOR REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

## CRIME

## Brothers who pinched car parts handed big jail sentences

TWO brothers who stole catalytic converters from cars across the county – including Maidstone – have been jailed for three years.

Between April and May 2011, William Stokes, 27, and Patrick Stokes, 23, both of Northolt in Middlesex, stole catalytic converters from cars that were parked in public car parks in towns including Maidstone, Gillingham, Seven-

oaks, Canterbury and Gravesend.

The car of a man at a hospital appointment at Darent Valley Hospital was also targeted.

In total, the brothers sold 348 catalytic converters to a scrap metal firm in Swindon, receiving over £50,000 in cash for the transactions.

The Stokes brothers were eventually caught when a car, which was believed

to have been involved, activated an automatic number plate recognition (ANPR) camera in Maidstone.

The car was located and a hydraulic cutting tool, heat resistant gloves and cloned number plates were found in the vehicle.

Both William and Patrick Stokes admitted conspiracy to steal and were sentenced at Maidstone Crown Court.

Investigating officer, Detective Constable Andrew Julier from Kent Police said: "As a consequence of their crimes, victims have not only suffered inconvenience but also increased insurance premiums as a result of making an insurance claim. Kent Police is continuing to crack down on people who steal metal and this result shows that people who are caught risk going to prison."

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## BUSINESS

## Restaurateur up for award

THE woman behind award-winning restaurant the Mulberry Tree in Boughton Monchelsea has been short-listed for a top business award. Karen Williams is a leading contender for this year's NatWest Everywoman Awards. Winners will be named in London in December.

## HEALTH

## Cancer team scoop prize

MAIDSTONE Hospital's Kent Oncology Centre radiotherapy team have scooped a top award at the National Cancer Research Institute conference. They picked up the Pfizer Excellence in Oncology Award for its patient support initiatives – and in particular a breast cancer radiotherapy DVD.

## EDUCATION

## Tasty treat at MidKent site

MIDKENT College has reopened its newly refurbished restaurant - The Apprentice. Work on the bar and serving area at the Maidstone campus has been carried out by students on painting and decorating courses. The restaurant is open to the public for bookings.

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*Merry Christmas*

KOS CAMPAIGN

# Join our campaign to help Kent's vulnerable elderly survive winter



By Marijke Cox

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THOUSANDS of vulnerable and elderly people could be helped this winter through the generosity of others donating their winter fuel payment to the most needy.

To encourage people to help the poorest in their communities, Archant KOS Media has teamed up with Kent Community Foundation (KCF), which has launched the new Surviving Winter fund campaign, to get the crucial message across and cut fuel poverty.

Chief executive of KCF, Carol Lynch, said: "It is not difficult to see the scale of the challenge.

which was redistributed to the most vulnerable elderly."

More than 76,500 households are in fuel poverty in Kent and Medway – an estimated 39,000 of them pensioners – and with rising fuel bills and the prospect of another cold winter, older and disadvantaged people remain at risk.

Each year there are more than 1,000 'excess' winter deaths in Kent and Medway, with many due to causes attributable to the cold."

Each year there are more than 1,000 'excess' winter deaths in Kent and Medway, with many due to causes attributable to the cold."

This newspaper and KCF are now appealing to readers to donate some or all of their payment to the poorest and most vulnerable.

The campaign is being rolled out nationwide by the country's Community Foundations, 56 charities aiming to improve the lives of people through work with local philanthropists and companies.

Over-50s services provider Saga, which has offices in Thanet and Folkestone, is also helping with the campaign.

"In other areas where campaigns were run, less needy people were more than happy to donate their £200 to a Surviving Winter fund," she said. "In Somerset alone, the Community Foundation raised over £50,000 from such donations.



Director general Ros Altmann said: "It is important to enable people who want to help those who are at risk of fuel poverty to keep warm this winter."

A number of high-profile people are involved, including Sir Terry Wogan, Sir David Jason and Sir Michael Parkinson.

Only Fools and Horses actor Sir David said: "When the idea of those most fortunate handing on their winter fuel payments to local, vulnerable people was presented I wanted to pledge my payment."

Former Maidstone MP and Strictly Come Dancing star Ann Widdecombe said she would be donating her payment.

"This gesture is such an easy way to support local people in

real need and I hope others will follow suit," she said.

You can donate by cheque. Please remember to Gift Aid your donation, this will add 25 per cent to its value, using the form below.

You can also donate at [www.kentcf.org.uk/surviving\\_winter.html](http://www.kentcf.org.uk/surviving_winter.html).

## CAMPAIGN:

People are asked to donate their winter fuel payment to support the vulnerable

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### → Car theft brothers jailed

BROTHERS who stole catalytic converters from cars across the county have been jailed for three years. In April and May, William Stokes, 27, and Patrick Stokes, 23, both of Northolt, Middlesex, targeted vehicles left in car parks in towns including Maidstone, Gillingham, Sevenoaks, Canterbury and Gravesend. The car of a man at a hospital appointment was also targeted. The pair admitted conspiracy to steal. They sold 348 catalytic converters to a scrap metal firm for more than £50,000.

### → Coach's Wembley date

MAIDSTONE United FC U8 and U11 coach Andy Berry has won a place on a McDonald's coaching masterclass at Wembley Stadium on November 20. Andy and his U8s team will have on-pitch workshops led the FA's head of elite development Gareth Southgate, 1966 hero Sir Geoff Hurst, ex-Manchester United youth coach Eric Harrison, ex-Arsenal defender Martin Keown, former Manchester United striker Andrew Cole and Northern Ireland's most capped player, Pat Jennings.

### → Tobacco raids arrests

THREE men were arrested after raids in Kent by 50 HM Revenue & Customs officers investigating money laundering offences and a suspected £16 million tobacco fraud. A fourth individual was arrested after he attended HMRC offices. A man, 53, from Ruckinge, two men from Ashford aged 31 and 42, and a man, 25, of no fixed abode, have been released on bail pending further inquiries.

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Fill in this form and send it along with your donation to Surviving Winter Appeal, Kent Community Foundation, 23 Evegate Barn, Smeeth, Ashford, Kent TN23 6SX

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# Olympic torch gives Kent chance to shine in run up to 2012 Games

By **Marijke Cox**

[marijke.cox@archant.co.uk](mailto:marijke.cox@archant.co.uk)

AS THE nation counts down the final months to the Olympics next year, Kent's communities will be busy welcoming the iconic torch as it nears the end of its epic journey to the capital.

The county will play a major part in the build-up to the Games, with the flame travelling through 37 Kent towns and villages, stopping overnight in Dover and Maidstone, just a week before the start of the Games.

The flame will also be taken on a paralympic cycle around the circuit at Brands Hatch, near West Kingsdown.

Communities are being encouraged to welcome the torchbearers and flame as it passes through as part of the epic 8,000 mile, 70-day relay across the UK.

Leader of Dover District Council, Cllr Paul Watkins, said he was thrilled the Dover district was chosen to play host.

## KENT'S OLYMPIC ROUTE

**Tuesday, July 17** Tunbridge Wells

**Wednesday, July 18** Hamstreet, Ashford, Hythe, Sandgate, Folkestone, Dover (stopover).

**Thursday, July 19** Deal, Sholden, Sandwich, Great Stonar, Cliffsend, St Lawrence, Ramsgate, Broadstairs, St Peter's, Cliftonville, Margate, Westgate-on-Sea, Birchington, Upstreet, Sturry, Canterbury, Thanington, Faversham, Challock, Harrietsham, Maidstone (stopover).

**Friday, July 20** Chatham, Gillingham, Rochester, Higham, Gravesend, Borough Green, Seal, Sevenoaks.



**FLAME:** The Olympic torch will visit villages and towns across the county before the 2012 Games

"This is a special occasion for the whole area, and follows the major announcement made in May that the Olympic torch is coming to Dover for the evening celebration," he said.

"We have a unique opportunity to shine a light on the area and showcase the Dover district."

Dover is one of 1,000 communities in the UK chosen by the London 2012 Organising Committee (LOCOG) to welcome the torch, which will spend more time in Kent than any other county.

In Thanet, the flame will pass through 10 areas and stop at Turner Contemporary in Margate.

People from the district are invited to greet the flame and share the excitement of the Olympics.

Thanet council leader Cllr Bob Bayford, said: "This is a once in a lifetime opportunity for all of Thanet to join together to welcome the Olympic flame and witness the spectacle of the torch relay."

Chair of LOCOG, Lord Sebastian Coe, said this

was Kent's moment to shine. "I want to encourage people to start planning how they can be part of this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity and show their support for the inspirational people chosen to carry the flame."

The torch will be carried by 8,000 torchbearers for one mile each.

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### → Man swings cat by tail

THE RSPCA is hunting for a man who swung a cat around in the air by its tail outside a pub in Ramsgate. The incident happened outside the Camden Arms pub in Ramsgate on Saturday, October 29, at 8.30pm. RSPCA Inspector Caroline Doe said: "This was a very violent, nasty attack on a cat. Anyone who witnessed this outside the pub must have been as shocked and appalled as we were." The terrified cat, two-year-old Mowgli, ran away following the incident.



**DO YOU KNOW HIM?** Attacker swings Mowgli

### → Booze moves cheered

MEDWAY Council's community safety chief Cllr Mike O'Brien has welcomed news that from April, 2012, retailers and bars will be banned from selling alcohol below cost price. Cllr Mike He said: "The Government's ban on below-cost alcohol is a significant first step in tackling alcohol fuelled anti-social behaviour and criminal damage in our community." The moves mean a litre bottle of vodka will not sell for less than £10.71 and a can of lager for less than 38p.

## ENTERTAINMENT

# Panto star Dave Lee steps down from Cinderella due to ill health

FUNNYMAN Dave Lee has been forced to pull out of this year's pantomime at the new Marlowe Theatre in Canterbury due to ill health.

Mr Lee, an annual fixture at the Marlowe's festive extravaganza, told theatre chiefs he would be unable to perform in this year's production of Cinderella, last week. He had been due to appear in more than 90 shows.

The star, who lives in Canterbury, is traditionally the first big name to be confirmed for the Christmas show – which this year was to get added spice by virtue of being the first to be staged inside the all-new £25m Marlowe Theatre which opened in October.

A statement from the theatre said: "It is with great regret that due to ill health, Dave Lee will not be appearing in this



**STARS:** Dave Lee, right, was due to perform in Cinderella alongside Stephen Mulhern

year's panto."

Mr Lee has raised over £2m with his Dave Lee's Happy Holidays charity, set up 15 years ago with his now late wife Linda.

The charity takes sick and underprivileged children on holiday.

Friends say the star is "very poorly".

Theatre director Mark Everett added: "It is a testament of Dave's professionalism that he wanted to fulfil his commitments to The Marlowe and his many fans by taking part in Cinderella, but 90 shows would be too much at this time."

Mr Lee was one of the most popular attractions in the annual festive show, with his 'bench gag' regularly bringing the house down.

Theatre chiefs say they intend the bench to still appear in this year's show, with Stephen Mulhern likely to lead the crowd through the sing-a-long.

Meanwhile, a replacement to play Mr Lee's character, Baron Hardup, has already been recruited.

■ **More news and sport at [www.yourcanterbury.co.uk](http://www.yourcanterbury.co.uk).**

From 3 January 2012, the current emissions standards are changing and more vehicle types will be affected

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## ROADS

**Traffic hotspot relief**

IMPROVEMENTS to North Farm in Tunbridge Wells will be in place in time for Christmas.

A working group set up to discuss the issues, including MP Greg Clark and council representatives, confirmed measures included traffic signal changes, keep clear markings and CCTV.

## ENTERTAINMENT

**Countdown begins to find out who will headline at Hop Farm Festival**

By Chris Britcher

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THE big-name headline acts for next year's eagerly anticipated Hop Farm Festival will be announced within weeks.

Promoter Vince Power revealed to us this week that the final touches are currently being put to the three-day event which will take place between June 29-July 1, 2012.

Last year's show at the Paddock Wood venue drew universal praise, with good weather providing the perfect back-drop for an event which featured the likes of Prince, Morrissey, Iggy Pop, Lou Reed and The Eagles.

Mr Power told this newspaper: "We'll probably announce all the main headliners by the end of the month. We're just finalising the details now."

"The Hop Farm has created a niche in the market; we attract legends here and we get a broad range of people coming to the festival."

"It's established itself now and we're not afraid to pay good money



**GUESSING GAME:** Just who will follow the likes of Morrissey and Prince?

for acts. We try to put the bill together so the whole weekend has a similar feel.

"This summer's event was the best response we've ever had. Peo-

ple have a loyalty to it now.

"Getting the profile up was the name of the game last year. I'm committed to the Hop Farm."

Mr Power now fully owns the

Hop Farm Festival after a stock market flotation of his company last year raised £6.5million.

It allowed him to buy the controlling stake and provide the launch pad for a number of new events – including the re-birth of the Phoenix Festival in the Midlands this summer. But he admitted this summer's festival failed to turn a profit.

"In 2010 we made money but we didn't this year as we spent a lot of money on Prince."

"I didn't want to miss the opportunity to get him. But we didn't make money last year."

Meanwhile, he also denied widespread rumours the Stone Roses – whose string of reunion shows at Manchester's Heaton Park coincide with the Hop Farm Festival this summer – will play at his Phoenix Festival this year.

The band, who sold out 220,000 tickets in just 68 minutes, this week confirmed they will play at Scotland's T in the Park festival, and have also signed a deal with Mr Power to play at his Spanish festival – Benicassim – in July 2012.

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## PLANNING

# Finally, cinema to be demolished

By Chris Britcher

chris.britcher@archant.co.uk

MP Greg Clark has given a cautious welcome to a planning application submitted to Tunbridge Wells Borough Council to flatten the town's best known 'grot spot' – the deserted cinema site.

Council chiefs this week confirmed a planning application from developers Bellhouse Joseph had been received, seeking permission to demolish the existing building.

The developers snapped up the site in August in a £10 million joint deal with a venture capital company.

It has stood empty since 2000 when the Odeon cinema shut its doors for the final time.

Since then, it has changed hands a number of times, but plans have never reached fruition, making it one of the town's political hot-potatoes.

So desperate were council chiefs to finally bring the long-running saga to an end, it vowed to serve a compulsory purchase order unless action was swift to transform it.

That threat, despite the re-

cent purchase and discussions with the owners of Premier Inn to open a venue on the site, remains hanging in the air should the new owners not carry out their promises.

Council leader Bob Atwood described the application as "a great step forward". He said: "For 11 years we have had to put up with a derelict cinema in the heart of our town. During this time we have heard from a string of developers about their intentions for the site, none of which have come to fruition.

"The site has become notorious and I consider it very good news to learn that, subject to planning permission, it could soon be removed.

"The borough council has been working hard behind the scenes to do all it can to rid the town of its grot spots. Already we are looking forward to the refurbishment and reopening of Morrisons and now we could be seeing the beginning of the end of the cinema saga."

It is expected the outcome of the application will be known in around three months.

Specific plans for after demolition have not yet been



GROT SPOT: The old cinema

submitted, and Cllr Atwood said that the council will continue to work with the developer to help ensure progress does not stall.

Meanwhile, MP for Tunbridge Wells, Greg Clark, said he remains cautious at this stage: "It is encouraging that things are, at last, moving on the cinema site.

"However, I take a cautious view until I see the actual plans on the proposed replacement. This is one of the most high profile sites in Tunbridge Wells and I will be keeping up the pressure for a new building that is worthy of our town's architectural glories."

## SPEED

## Record smashed by 11-year-old

SCHOOLBOY Ben Jelf has written himself into the history books as the UK's youngest World Powerboat speed record holder.

The 11-year-old from Maidstone has already been crowned the nation's youngster ever World and European Powerboat Racing champion.

He added the record to his list of achievements at the 41st Annual Coniston Powerboat Records Week in Cumbria.



In doing so, he also raised over £2,000 for the Everyman cancer campaign.

The youngster chalked up a time of 43.11mph in the GT15 class to secure the record.

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Derwent Albert Chair in Red  
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GPlan Chloe 2Str sofa in P Grade Capri Brown  
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GPlan Oakland 2Str Sofa in Lichen Hide  
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GPlan Carrera 2str sofa + Recliner Chair in Eleanor Beige  
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### Dining...

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Cacio Lisbon Table & 6 Chairs in Oak Finish  
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Sutcliffe Amberley Small Sideboard in Cherry Finish  
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Sutcliffe Windsor Gateleg & 2 chairs Mahogany Finish  
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Cacio Carisma Large table & 6 Chairs in Light Oak  
**was £3873 NOW £2295**

Dovetail Iris Corner Display unit in oak  
**was £1265 NOW £749**

Cacio Lisbon display unit in Oak Finish  
**was £1699 NOW £999**

Cacio Carisma Large Sideboard in Light oak  
**was £1899 NOW £1149**

Nathan 900 series wall run in Oak finish  
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Sutcliffe Amberley 3 door wall unit walnut Finish  
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Sutcliffe Amberley Corner display Unit in walnut Finish  
**was £1125 NOW £725**

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Cresta Childrens wardrobe in pine and blue  
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Alstons Teatro 4 door Robe Mirror/White fronts  
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Alstons Teatro tallboy White Fronts  
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Sutcliffe Amberley Table 4 Chairs 2 Carvers in Walnut Finish  
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Cacio Lisbon Sideboard in oak Finish  
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Sutcliffe Amberley 3 door wall unit white fronts  
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Ercol Como 2 door wardrobe  
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## News

### CHRISTMAS

# Festive lights switch on has the X Factor

By Chris Britcher

[chris.britcher@archant.co.uk](mailto:chris.britcher@archant.co.uk)

X FACTOR finalist Amelia Lily will team up with Heart DJ and TV star Toby Anstis to flick the switch on the Christmas lights at Tunbridge Wells' Royal Victoria Place next week.

The duo will be the star turns in a special Christmas Lights Switch On Party hosted by the shopping complex on Thursday, November 17.

Amelia Lily was the hotly-tipped young singer who was sensationally kicked out of the ITV1 talent show in the first week of the live finals.

She fell victim to a new twist in the rules which saw each judge forced to reject one of the finalists in each category.

Mentored by Destiny's Child star Kelly Rowland, Amelia, 16, was given glowing praise by the multi-million selling singer.

The star said of her: "You are all going to see this girl

everywhere. She has an incredible voice – she's bold, she's young."

And residents will get their chance to see her as she will be forming a key part of the festive celebrations at RVP.

Marc Burchett, the senior marketing manager at the Westfield shopping centre, said:

"The Christmas launch event is one of the highlights of the festive season here in Tunbridge Wells and this year we have planned an extra special evening full of fun entertainment for all the family.

"The highlight being our spectacular Switch On party gets under way at 6.30pm.



**NIGHT OF STARS:**  
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## CELEBRITY

# Star told Kent accent 'would do her no favours' in acting career

ACTRESS Gemma Arterton has revealed how she took speech lessons to lose her Kent accent.

Arterton, who shot to fame as a Bond girl in *Quantum of Solace* with Daniel Craig, was born and grew up in Gravesend.

But last weekend she spoke about how Stephen Frears, who directed her in the 2010 film *Tamara Drewe*, sent her to a vocal coach to take away her Kent accent.

Arterton, 25, told *The Guardian*: "When I was at Rada they did say I should change it – it wasn't going to do me any favours, is what one particular teacher told me. And so I did, but now it's just found its own 'estuarine' sound."

"It's funny because people do judge you by how you talk."

"It comes and goes. If I go back home or I'm with my dad, it comes back. If I have a drink it comes back. I remember my family getting all 'why are you talking like that?'"

Her mother Sally-Anne, was



**KENTISH MAID:** Gemma Arterton had speech lessons so she could lose her accent

a cleaner, and her father Barry was a welder. They divorced when she was five, and along with her sister Hannah Jane she was brought up by their mother on a council estate.

Arterton attended Painters Ash Primary School in Northfleet, then Gravesend Grammar School for Girls in Gravesend. She took a performance arts course at the Miskin Theatre in Dartford, part of North West Kent College, and trained at the Royal Academy of Dramatic Art on a full grant.

She didn't realise acting could be a career until she was 16, saying: "My family was never cultural in that we never went to see plays, my mum wasn't very into films."

The star, who has appeared in big budget films such as *Prince of Persia*, and *Clash of the Titans*, and Tess of the D'Urbervilles on the BBC, described herself as a feminist working in a "male-dominated industry", and said that her mother and aunt moulded her opinions.

She told the newspaper: "They were both very instrumental in my upbringing. My aunt is a lesbian and very, very feminist. We were never man-

haters or anything, just like, 'It's good to be a woman.'"

She said she is still close to her family and takes them to film sets and premieres.

## CHARITY

## Demelza's X Factor boost

CHILDREN'S hospice Demelza will be among the charities to benefit from this year's X Factor charity single.

The single, a cover version of Rose Royce classic *Wishing on a Star*, will be available for download on November 20.

All the net record company profits from sales of the single will go to Together for Short

Lives, which supports children and young people unlikely to reach adulthood.

The majority of proceeds will go to services supporting children and families – including Demelza. The single is recorded by all 16 finalists who have appeared on the TV shows.

Demelza has two hospices, in Eltham and Sittingbourne.

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NEWS

# Keep up to date with our iPad app upgrade

By Steve Knight

editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

ARCHANT KOS Media is taking advantage of the changing face of technology by updating its popular Kent News application for the Apple iPad.

The way people access their news is constantly evolving, and the publisher of this paper is keeping ahead of the game with its new and improved home for all things Kent.

Available free from Apple's App Store, the PageSuite-designed software contains all the very best of kentnews.co.uk including breaking news

and sports stories, job vacancies, motoring and property.

Visitors will also have access to all Archant KOS Media's digital publications including its flagship title Kent on Sunday and the online Your local series of e-papers, as well as magazines ranging from Kent Life and Kent Bride to Visit Kent, Isle and Your Health.

Archant KOS Media development director Jason Pyne said: "I am extremely pleased with the new app and it will offer huge advantages to our readers who have access to one.

"While we are still fully committed to the print side of

our business, it is important to recognise that technology has allowed people to access their news in ways like never before. We therefore need to provide the best online applications to ensure we are giving our readers exactly what they want.

"Over 10,000 people have now downloaded the original apps and they can easily update the app for free.

"Our advertisers will also benefit from being able to reach a much wider audience."

In addition to the very best jobs and property via the Jobs24 and Homes24 section, the new app also provides



**LATEST:** Read the news, search for jobs and view videos on our iPad app

access to MyVouchers24.co.uk, which offers discounts on a wide range of goods and services from the High Street.

The software also contains a link to view all the latest Archant KOS Media video content, including a round-up of the

recent hugely-successful Wedding Show at Leeds Castle.

It will soon be available on the iPad's Newsstand service too, while subscribers can receive up-to-the-minute updates via email and text via 'push notification' technology.

Mr Pyne added: "The Kent News app contains everything you would want from a newspaper and a more. We hope our readers and advertisers enjoy the multitude of benefits."

Visit the App Store today and search 'Kent News for iPad'.

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## EDUCATION

### Application process for primary schools opens

PARENTS in the Kent County Council catchment area have been invited to apply for their child's preferred primary school for September, 2012.

Families have until January 16, to submit their application forms.

The easiest way to do so is online at [www.kent.gov.uk/ola](http://www.kent.gov.uk/ola), where families can register all their details and select up to three schools.

Paper copies of the application form are available from primary schools or by calling Kent County

Council's admissions team on 01622 696565.

KCC cabinet member for education, learning and skills, Cllr Mike Whiting, said: "It's not first come, first served, so there is plenty of time to visit nearby schools and select your preferred ones."

A letter will be sent on Friday, March 30, 2012, to tell parents which school they have been offered. More information at [www.kent.gov.uk/primaryadmissions](http://www.kent.gov.uk/primaryadmissions).

## GREG CLARK MP will be in... Lamberhurst

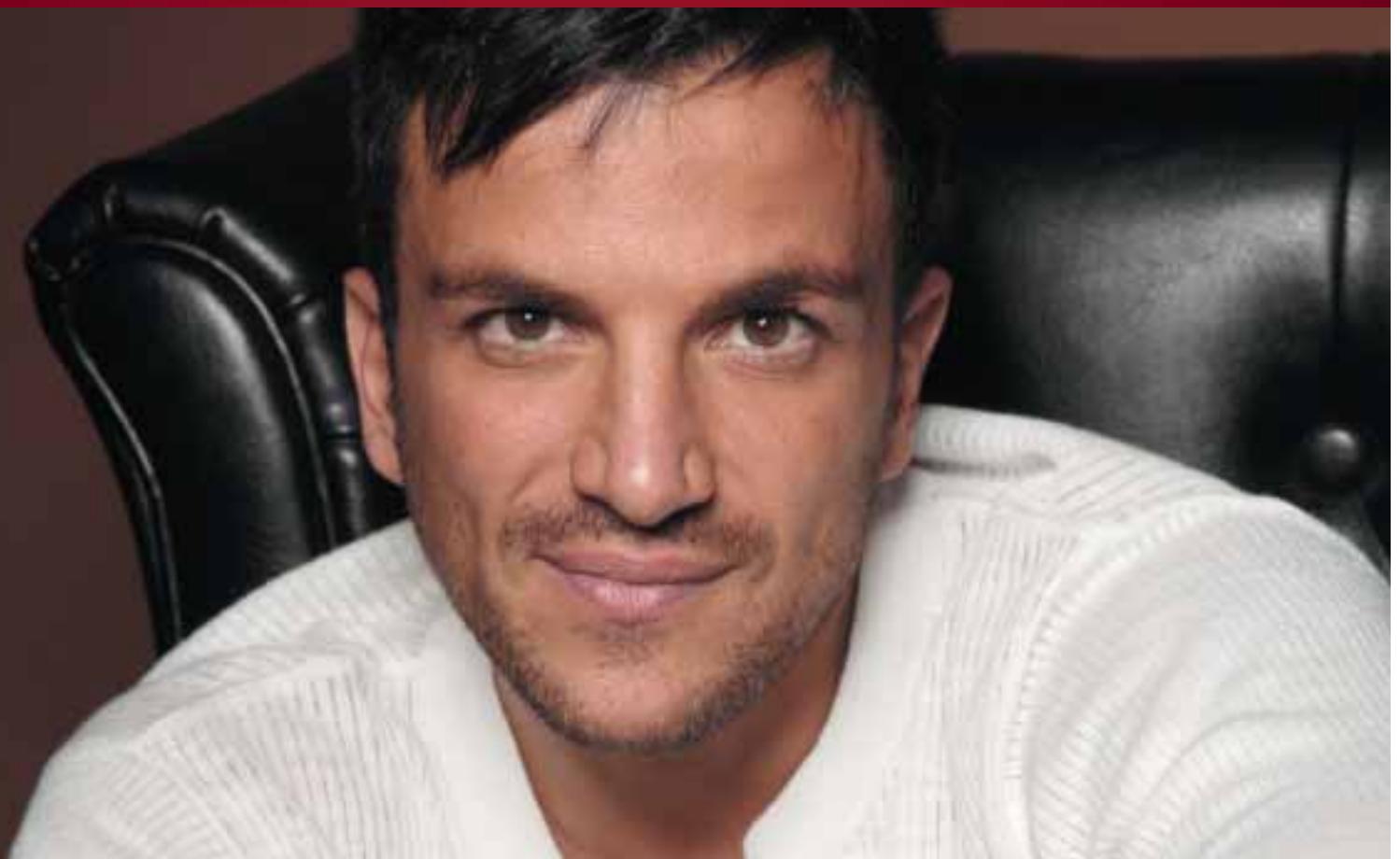
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## EDUCATION

# New KCC education chief says university changes are 'worth considering'

By Steve Knight

editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

A REVIEW of the university admissions system which recommends students get their results before applying for a course has been welcomed by Kent's new education chief.

The Universities and Colleges Admissions Service (Ucas) argues the current procedure, where A-level pupils apply based on their predicted grades, is too complex and that changing it would aid those candidates less well-equipped to "work the system".

Patrick Leeson, who joined Kent County Council as its new corporate director for education, learning and skills late last month, said the proposals were worth considering.

The former Ofsted director said: "Clearly the business of young people getting university offers before they sit their A-levels, then going through the process of achieving their offer grades or not is an incredibly stressful time."

"At the very time they're supposed to be concentrating on getting the best grades they can, they've also got all this worry and concern that they might not get into their university of choice."

"The university clearing process can also be an extremely frustrating time for parents and their children."

"There is therefore some merit in what's been proposed, but it would mean a big change for the whole country."

"A number of headteachers think it would shorten the amount of teaching time because the exams will probably be brought forward, so there are pluses and minuses but it's definitely something that needs to be considered."

Mr Leeson was appointed as corporate director for education, learning and skills in July following a top-level restructure at KCC.

His predecessor of sorts was Rosalind Turner, who resigned from her position as managing director of children, families and education in January, just weeks after the authority received a 'poor' rating as part of Ofsted's annual assessment of children's social services.

While Mr Leeson's newly-created position does not include social services, the former English and drama teacher is still prepared for a tough few months ahead.

"My main job is to make sure standards improve and children get better outcomes," he said. "Standards are good in secondary schools and most are either good or outstanding, which is great. But there are not enough good or outstanding primary schools. That's a key issue."

"I wouldn't put my finger on one reason why, but I do think it's partly down to secondary schools having more resources. They're bigger and there's been an awful lot more focus on their performance in recent years."

"I also think that in a county as large as Kent,



**WORTH A LOOK:** Patrick Leeson wants more good or outstanding primary schools in the county

there's a big issue with rural schools that are quite small and can change very quickly when they lose certain members of staff."

"But there's been an ongoing trend in recent years of primary schools forming partnerships to improve quality and ensure strong leadership, and I think that's something we need to see more of."

## HEALTH

## Comic warning to use your A&E properly

NHS chiefs have put a series of comic videos on YouTube to try and stop inappropriate use of Kent's hospital casualty departments.

The films include women waiting for treatment for hair-dye disasters and botched false nails, a pushy mum desperate for her son to be seen by senior doctors for his diarrhoea, and even a man hoping A&E staff will turn their hands to helping out his poorly dog.

In the last 12 months it is estimated that more than 700,000 people went to A&E departments in the South of England, when they could have been treated and advised by their local pharmacist or GP, or could have looked after themselves at home.

## CRIME

## Calls for new powers to tackle cable theft

RAIL chiefs have called for tougher measures in dealing with cable theft after a rise in incidents.

In Kent, the number of thefts on the railways has risen over the last four years by 180 to 305.

At a meeting of the Transport Select Committee, representatives from Network Rail, the Association of Train Operating Companies and the British Transport Police also called for new measures to help reduce disruption to passengers caused by cable theft.

Dyan Crowther, director operational services at Network Rail, said: "Britain is under attack from metal thieves. Every day hundreds of passengers and essential freight deliveries are being disrupted and delayed."



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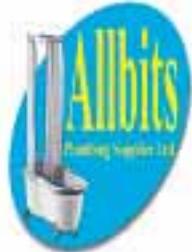
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## APPEAL

# Neighbours' plea to find Asbo artist's daughter for funeral

By Dan Carrier

editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

AN APPEAL has been launched to track down the estranged daughter of one of the country's oldest Asbo recipients, who died last month.

Terence O'Rourke, 71, who had 19 aliases and often claimed to be the illegitimate son of the famed British painter Francis Bacon, passed away after a battle with pneumonia, blood poisoning and diabetes.

There were plans to bury him in a so-called 'pauper's grave' due to his apparent lack of family and funds to pay for a funeral, but neighbours in the Dartmouth Park district of Camden, north London – including top civil servant Sir Christopher Kelly and his wife Alison – have stepped in to help.

They want to find Mr O'Rourke's only daughter, who is believed to live in Kent, so she at least has the chance to be at his funeral.

Mrs Kelly, whose husband is best known for heading the inquiry into MPs' expenses, said: "Terence would often talk about a child he



**CHARACTER:** Despite being the oldest man to receive an Asbo, friends say there was another side to keen painter Terence O'Rourke

had called Marie or Maureen, who he believed was living on a farm in Kent.

"We would very much like to contact her to let her know her father has passed away, and give her the option of attending his funeral. We desperately want to find her."

Mr O'Rourke, who claimed his mother slept with Francis Bacon while working as his housekeeper, was a well known figure in the Dartmouth Park area but largely because of an unenviable record of being the oldest man in the borough to be given an anti-social behaviour order.

He was known for his aggressive behaviour, which included drinking heavily and abusing people in the street, and was issued with the Asbo in January last year after police had received persistent complaints.

In his defence, friends said he was a man with problems who lacked the help he needed to overcome them.

Mr O'Rourke died at the Royal Free Hospital in Hampstead on October 4.

The hospital was due to bury him in a communal grave, but after going through his belongings staff found Sir Christopher's telephone number.

Sir Christopher was named as the executor of Mr O'Rourke's will, which kick-started the search for

his daughter and a plan to cover a proper funeral.

Mrs Kelly said Mr O'Rourke's reputation on Camden's streets was such that many shunned him.

She said: "He could be very difficult, but there was another side to him that a few of us got to know."

Friends remembered a keen painter who filled his home with his own works, and roses in his front garden – he loved nothing more than to talk to passers by about rose growing.

Yet his infamy was underlined when magistrates issued a court order in January last year.

He was then 69 and the court heard he had a string of misdemeanours including prodding people with his walking stick, harassing women with lewd behaviour, urinating in the street, and also shouting racist abuse at a bus driver.

■ Are you Mr O'Rourke's daughter or do you know her? Call our news team on 01303 817000 or email [editorial@kosmedia.co.uk](mailto:editorial@kosmedia.co.uk) to find out more.

## CRIME

## No charges after bomb hoax arrests

TWO people arrested as part of a probe into the Canterbury bomb hoax which brought the city to a halt have now been released without charge.

The man and a woman, both from Kent, had been arrested following a high profile appeal for information on BBC One's Crimewatch.

CCTV images of four people wanted in connection with the offence were broadcast on the show last Thursday.

The 41-year-old woman and 52-year-old man were detained by police following raids at addresses in Kent.

Police launched the appeal because they said

the hoax may have been an elaborate warm-up for a more serious crime. They feared a crime gang might have been involved in the hoax when two devices were planted in the city. It sparked a huge alert, closing much of the city centre.

Police released CCTV images of three women buying mobile phones in the West End of London which were used to alert police and news organisations to the bomb scare.

Det Chief Insp Tom Richards said: "I would encourage anyone who thinks they have any information to get in touch on 01303 289600 or call Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111."

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## CHARITY

## Youth choir's TV slot for Children in Need

KENT County Junior Choir will be singing live on national TV at Bluewater shopping centre to help raise funds for BBC's Children in Need on Friday, November 18.

The 60-strong choir, made up of youngsters from all over Kent, will be conducted by Gareth Malone, choirmaster and award-winning broadcaster of the hit TV reality show The Choir.

They will be singing Keep Holding On along with choirs at different locations across the country as part of a live link-up with Gareth conducting all of them from BBC's Children in Need studio.

Jo Fitzmaurice, who manages the choirs for Kent Music, said: "Our junior choir is very excited about performing on TV. The age range is 11 to 15 and although they do sing at public events, they will probably be a little nervous as it's such a privilege to be singing live on national television for Children in Need."

The choir meets once a month on a Saturday, with rehearsals alternating between Rochester and Maidstone. Admission is by audition, and details can be found at [www.kent-music.com](http://www.kent-music.com).

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# Pulitzer Prize winner's tribute to Conan Doyle

By Nick Ames

nick.ames@archant.co.uk

A NEW review of the work of one of Crowborough's most famous residents - Sherlock Holmes creator Sir Arthur Conan Doyle - has been penned by a heavyweight Pulitzer Prize winning US author.

Almost always associated with scholarly works, author Michael Dirda has turned his attention to the output of Conan Doyle and indulges his love of the remarkable detective, the writer's most famous character.

Conan Doyle lived in Crowborough, near Tunbridge Wells, for the last 23 years of his life and a statue to him stands in the town.

Now the book, Michael Dirda on Conan Doyle, has been published by Princeton and is available in both the USA and the UK.

It details the author's first introduction to Holmes via The Hound of the Baskervilles to his induction into the great detective's world famous fan club The Baker Street Irregulars - whose past members have included US presidents Franklin D Roosevelt and Harry S Truman.



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Conan Doyle died on July 7, 1930, after suffering a heart attack outside his home, Windlesham, on the outskirts of the East Sussex town.

He was buried on the estate and then joined, in 1940, by his wife.

When the family sold the estate, they were both exhumed and their graves moved to All Saints Church in Minstead in the New Forest.

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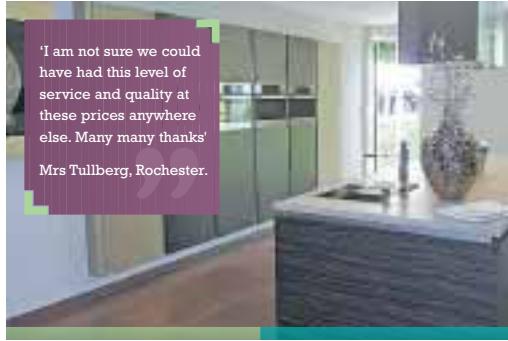


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CCTV

## Police issue image as part of trike theft probe

A CROOK is being sought by police after an electric-assisted trike was pinched from outside a charity shop in Sevenoaks.

The red trike, which had a two-wheel trailer attached to it, containing groceries, was swiped from outside the British Heart Foundation store on the High Street at some time between 6.10pm and 6.55pm on October 22.

Officers have released a CCTV image taken that evening in a bid to bring forward more information.

If anyone recognises the man pictured or he wishes to rule himself out of enquiries, contact Kent Police on 01732 379206 quoting crime reference BY/014585/11.



RETAIL

## Retirement gifts for WISA leading light

THE Weald Independent Shops' Association bid farewell to one of its most active members and a champion of rural business on Monday, at a special gathering to mark the retirement of Sean Carter.

The successful organisation, which promotes local produce and stores, presented Mr Carter, the former chief executive of the nationwide Rural Shops' Alliance, with membership of the Royal Horticultural Society and gardening tools to allow him to indulge his passion, at the event at the Star Inn in Matfield.

John Maxwell-Jones of Burgess Stores at Goudhurst said: "Sean was instrumental in setting up WISA and for many years has actively supported rural businesses. The event was a great success and we wish him all the very best in the future."

WISA, which now boasts some 16 members, represents the interests of local stores across Benenden, Bidborough, Cranbrook, Frittenden, Goudhurst, Lamberhurst, Matfield, Rolvenden, Sandhurst, Sissinghurst and Speldhurst.

CRIME

## Police warn elderly not to fall victim to conmen

By Chris Britcher

chris.britcher@archant.co.uk

AN ELABORATE bank card con is tricking a number of elderly people out of their cash, according to police.

Now officers are warning those in the Tonbridge area to be on the look-out after a spate of incidents.

Conmen have been phoning elderly or vulnerable people pretending to be from their bank and giving them limited personal information such as their address, to make the call seem genuine.

Often they go on to claim that their bank card has been used fraudulently, ask for the card's PIN number so the new card can be set up with it and then say a new card will be dispatched by courier.

The old card is then picked up by a man posing as a courier. Following this, large sums of money are withdrawn from the victim's bank account, using both the card and PIN



CARDS: Be aware of tricksters obtained by the conmen.

Inspector John Phillips of the Tonbridge neighbourhood team, said: "The actions of these conmen are despicable, preying in every case on the elderly and vulnerable and in some cases stealing very large sums of money. The elaborate nature of the scam adds credibility to the story, especially when these phone calls are followed up by a visit they are expecting. Furthermore, by posing as officials from their bank, victims are less likely to object to handing over their bank details and cards.

"However, I must stress that

people should not accept that an unsolicited caller is who he claims to be.

"Banks would never confiscate victim's cards or ask for PIN details under any circumstances. If you are asked for these details, you should immediately be suspicious.

"Genuine bank employees will be prepared to provide verifiable contact details for you to call them back. These call-backs should be made through an independently verified number, such as a bank switchboard listed in the Yellow Pages or the bank's internet homepage.

"I ask elderly people to be vigilant of these scams and for family and friends to look out for those who are vulnerable, to try and prevent any more of these offences occurring.

"If you suspect any suspicious behaviour from either a telephone call or visit, I urge people to contact Kent Police in the first instance on 01622 690690."

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\*10% off all purchases over £10 made on late night evenings. See website for full details.

(\*excluding stamps and vouchers.)

Carol singing from Penshurst Primary School children at 6pm on 7th December.

Visit Father Christmas in his grotto Saturday & Sunday 3rd & 4th, 10th & 11th, 17th & 18th December 10.30am - 12.30pm and 1.30 - 3.30pm. Tickets £5 no booking required.

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## COMPETITION

# Three pairs of tickets to Clothes Show Live to be won

CLOTHES Show Live, the UK's biggest fashion and beauty event returns for its 23rd year with even more fashion, beauty and shopping than ever, from December 2-7 at Birmingham's NEC.

With hundreds of leading fashion and beauty brands, non-stop catwalk shows, hair and beauty demonstrations, leading industry experts and the UK's favourite celebrities, it's the ultimate girls' day out. And what's more, you could be going for free.

Clothes Show Live, in association with Suzuki, is giving three lucky winners a pair of tickets each to this year's show.

There will be cutting-edge fashion, glamorous catwalk shows featuring not-yet-seen designer collections, the perfect opportunity to pamper and relax, and much more – this year's Clothes Show



Live is bigger and better than ever.

Bourjois, Juicy Couture and Benefit are among the fashion and beauty brands to shop from; Parade, George Lamb and Jeff Brazier are among the list of celebrity attendees to keep the crowd entertained; while Jamie Stephens, Karl Willett and Caryn Franklin will all be on hand to give

demonstrations and their vital advice about the industry.

Clothes Show Live's famous Fashion Theatre performance is a reason in itself to come to the event.

More than 40 models and dancers take to the world's longest catwalk to showcase the latest collections from everyone from Henry Holland

to DKNY and Adidas to New Look. This year's theme is The Department Store, with eight scenes each inspired by the different levels of famous New York department store Bloomingdale's.

And The Dance Show at Clothes Show Live will once again be the must-attend event of the year for any dance enthusiast.

It will feature amazing live performances, interactive dance classes, the UK's leading dancewear brands, masterclasses from the professionals, seminars, and awards.

For your chance to win a pair of tickets, just answer this simple question:

**For how many years has the Clothes Show been running for?**

**A - 23, B - 24, C - 25**

To enter text CLOTHES (space)

answer, name and address and send to 64343.

Texts cost £1 plus standard network rates. Entries received after the closing date of November 22, 2011, will not be counted but you may still be charged.

Your number may be used by Archant KOS Media. If you do not wish to receive information on any other products or services, please text EXIT at the end of your message.

The service provider is JMedia UK Ltd, SE1 0QX, call 0844 800 1188.

Clothes Show Live in association with Suzuki and The Dance Show takes place at Birmingham's NEC, from December 2-7. Tickets are available at [clothesshowlive.com](http://clothesshowlive.com) or by calling the box office on 0844 5811256.



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## CRIME

## Authorities to crackdown on the anti-social youths

POLICE and council chiefs are cracking down on a trouble zone in Dover where youngsters – some as young as 10 – have thrown bricks at windows and carried out a host of other anti-social acts.

But now a dispersal order will be in place for the next six months, giving police the power to order people to leave the area of St Radigund's if they are found causing "intimidation, harassment, alarm or distress".

It comes after reports of inci-

dents including youngsters running on the roofs of Buckland Hospital.

Those moved under the order cannot return to the area within 24 hours and young people under 16 can be taken home to their parents.

Those who ignore the order risk a three-month jail sentence or maximum £2,500 fine.

In just six months there have been more than 90 calls to Kent Police about youngsters and anti-social behaviour in St Radigund's.

## CHARITY

## Appeal for Santa Strollers

SUPPORT and research charity Parkinson's UK is inviting people to join a fundraising walk, the Santa Stroll on Sunday, December 4.

The Christmas circular walk will take place around Leybourne Lakes Country Park, near Maidstone.

Registration is £15 for adults and will include a Santa outfit. Children can join in the fun too for

£5 and are encouraged to come in their fancy dress outfits. All proceeds will help fund Parkinson's UK's work in the South East.

Parkinson's is a degenerative neurological condition and there is currently no cure.

To register for the event contact Alyson Smith, 0844 225 9843 or email [ajsmith@parkinsons.org.uk](mailto:ajsmith@parkinsons.org.uk).

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**FACT AND FICTION:** Ian Fleming created the 30 Assault Unit, whose members fought in World War Two

## Real role models for 007 finally revealed

By Nick Ames

[nick.ames@archant.co.uk](mailto:nick.ames@archant.co.uk)

MOST famous as the creator of James Bond, writer Ian Fleming is the subject of a new book detailing the real-life heroics of his own band of World War Two warriors.

Ian Fleming's Commandos is the title of a work by Nicholas Rankin which tells the story of 30 Assault Unit (30 AU) – who the book calls “the real life inspiration” for 007.

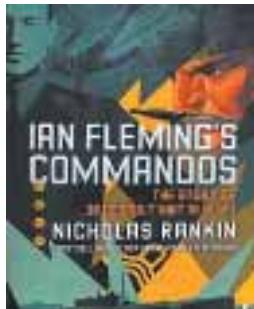
Fleming lived in St Margaret's Bay after he brought the house called White Cliffs, in 1952. The house, which is white with lime-green shutters and a red roof can be identified at the north end of the beach. It was his weekend and holiday home for the decade in which he conceived and wrote the first of the James Bond books.

And Rankin's book describes how his true-life activities inspired some of the fiction which was to follow.

It tells of how as Germany fell in 1945, crack teams of Allied commandos swept the country to find key Nazi intelligence.

Among those scouring the remains of the Fatherland were 30 AU, who seized scientist Dr Helmut Walter and a film detailing proposed wonder-weapons including jet hydrofoils, radio-controlled bombs and a prototype for a ballistic missile submarine.

Naval Intelligence Commander Fleming had put together the group to rival the German Abwehrkommando, a joint-service group to steal enemy equipment and intelligence.



**HEROES:** Fleming's wartime exploits detailed in new book

And surely he gained inspiration for the gadgetry in the Bond novels from the bizarre creations revealed by the investigations of his unit.

Fleming had tried his hand at journalism and in the stock market prior to the war.

It was after fighting broke out that he finally found a role that suited him, as personal assistant to the Director of Naval Intelligence. He was appointed a lieutenant in the Royal Naval Volunteer Reserve, rising later to the rank of commander.

Here his flair and imagination were in full force as he created 30 ACU, co-ordinated propaganda, and devised elaborate undercover sabotage operations, and was sent abroad on special duties to Tangier and America.

The most impressive action by 30 AU saw the seizure of the entire archives of the German Navy – more than 300 tonnes of documents.

Rankin also writes about

Fleming's plans for covert operations in North Africa and one of his ploys to hijack an Enigma machine-bearing torpedo boat in the English Channel with disguised commandos – allegedly hatched with his brother Peter at a property the family owned just outside Wye.

A number of the personalities in the book display decidedly Bond-like characteristics such as Patrick Dalzel-Job who ended the war as a lieutenant-commander, having spent much of the conflict harrying the enemy in Norway.

During his service he navigated a miniature submarine, he was a crack shot and could ski backwards, and he had a compass concealed in one of his buttons.

Trevor James 'Sancho' Glanville is another possible for the inspiration behind 007. Glanville served in nearly every campaign of 30 AU, took the surrender of the Italians, German and Japanese admirals, and earned the respect of all ranks for his courage, compassion, comradeship and cool common-sense.

Last year St Margaret's Bay was used as the location for a number of scenes in a film of the exploits of 30 AU, entitled Age of Heroes and starring Sean Bean.

However it is another way the true-life exploits of Fleming's men has been commemorated. And their story – kept secret for many years – is now being told with Rankin's book the definitive work.

■ For more news and sport see [www.yourdover.co.uk](http://www.yourdover.co.uk).

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## OPINION

# Return of taxpayers' millions from Icelandic banks won't stop the cuts

Our budget pressures will be here to stay, says Kent County Council's cabinet member for finance and business support Cllr John Simmonds

FOLLOWING the news that Kent County Council will be first in line to get its deposits back from Icelandic banks, KCC's Cllr John Simmonds explains what will happen to the money:

The likely return of the money that Kent County Council deposited with Icelandic banks has created a sense of expectation that the authority might not have to make any further savings in its budget.

The truth is that when these funds do return, they will have little or no effect on the work we are doing to respond to the £95 million of growing pressures on our budget and reduced funding from government.

Let me explain how the deposits made by KCC with the Icelandic banks were made up. Of the £50 million deposited

with banks in Iceland, £33 million came from KCC funds and the remaining £17 million belonged to the Kent pension fund and the fire authority.

The £33 million was part of our cash flow, similar to having money in your current account to handle routine bills.

The council has £250 million-£300 million available at any one time, which is about five weeks of turnover.

This money consists of our reserves and government grants and is used to meet a wide range of payments across children's and adult's services, as well as overheads, such as salaries, premises costs and utility bills.

To make sure that we get the best that we can from public money, the government encouraged us to get the best possible return.

This is why we made the deposits with British and Icelandic banks.

When those banks had difficult times, the British government bailed out its banks, but the Icelandic government could not do the same. However, the Icelandic banks had good assets, making it possible for KCC to get most, if not all, of the money back.

When the Icelandic deposits were frozen, KCC was able to cope with the impact of the Iceland bank difficulties on its cash flow without any effect on frontline services.

It is important to understand that none of the changes to KCC's budget have been because of the difficulties with the Icelandic deposits. KCC did, however, make some provision in case not all of the money was returned.

We are expecting the funds from Icelandic banks to be returned over a 12-18 month period.

From the £33 million mentioned above, we had set aside £6.5 million as a reserve and, as the Icelandic money is returned, this will become available to support services.

If the money had not been returned to KCC, there would have been an impact on services. This is not the case, however, and the money will be returned. Despite the difficulties, there may not be any capital loss at all.

If we are also successful in our claim for interest - based on the anticipated recovery rates for each Icelandic bank - we could end up recovering more than our original £50 million deposit. This is not yet certain but a very real possibility.

6699

There  
may not  
be any  
capital  
loss at all

## KOS COMMENT

Time to remember their brave sacrifice

REMEMBRANCE Day began after the terrible slaughter of young men on the battlefields of World War One.

The last veterans of that conflict are now gone. Sadly, the Great War turned out not to be the war to end all wars.

British forces have continued to fight around the world in places such as Korea, Malaya and the Falklands.

That loss of life continues to this day.

Men and women of the Armed Forces are being killed in Afghanistan, or returning with terrible injuries.

Whatever the rights or wrongs of any conflict, this Sunday is a time to remember their sacrifice.

Don't forget a box of matches for the torch

IT seems that the Olympic flame will be visiting virtually every town and village in the country before making it to Stratford. Organisers have admitted there is a possibility that it could get blown out.

If you are one of the lucky ones chosen to relay the torch, pray it doesn't happen on your watch.

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**Fireworks display at Cuxton**  
by Adam Tingley

## IMAGES OF KENT

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## Airport dream is a nightmare

There have been a raft of proposals for multi-billion pound air and rail transport schemes around London and the Thames Estuary.

The RSPB is fully aware of the economic, housing and development needs of the region and welcomes plans to look at issues on a big scale.

Spurred on by London Mayor Boris Johnson, Sir Norman Foster is the latest architect-designer to showcase his skills, following in the footsteps of Sir Terry Farrell, and engineer Doug Oakervee. All have tabled drawings featuring big transport developments as a means for tapping global markets.

Putting the environment first should be our priority. This would inform development for attractive housing with infrastructure and home-grown jobs to match, while sympathetically enhancing our countryside for wildlife, recreation and leisure.

The Thames estuary is a unique and special place, unrivalled across Europe and cannot be reproduced on the same scale. Its current status is the result of years of partnership working and campaigning, not least by some very passionate local people.

Sir Norman Foster's giant air, rail and road hub on the Isle of Grain in north Kent, connected to a transport spine running northwards, ignores basic and well-publicised facts. His plans suggest the area is largely un-populated. Research carried out for the Government's 2003 aviation white paper concluded that an airport in the same area would mean the destruction of 1,100 homes. On top of that it would be the highest risk airport in the country for bird strikes by far. And finally, it is UK Government policy that there will be no airport expansion in the South East.

Apirational architecture and design is about improving what's precious to us all; building homes and communities in spaces that benefit our physical and mental well-being. Places

where nature and people meet and prosper. Let's invest in these 'Futurescapes' and abandon fantasy airfields.

**Martin Harper.**  
**Director of conservation,**  
**RSPB**

## Remember flying heroes

This Remembrance Sunday, as our thoughts turn to the sacrifices made by members of the Armed Forces, I would ask your readers to spare a moment for the remarkable men and women of the Royal Air Force.

Today the RAF is deployed worldwide, defending our skies at home and supporting our troops in Afghanistan, as well as playing a vital role in toppling the tyrannical regime of Colonel Gaddafi in Libya.

Seventy years ago the RAF was just as stretched, flying to defend the UK, Malta, Egypt, and the Atlantic supply lines. Like their successors they also fought to defeat a tyrant regime. By then we had won the Battle of Britain, but bomber missions over Hitler's Germany during

November, 1941, were hazardous in the extreme, with crews suffering a loss rate of around 10 per cent.

The RAF Benevolent Fund was on hand then and is still here today, supporting all generations of the Royal Air Force, including those currently serving. Our mission is to honour their sacrifice by looking after the RAF family, helping to repay what Winston Churchill called the 'Debt We Owe' to all RAF personnel.

At this time of giving thanks I would urge anyone with a Royal Air Force background who is in need of help or support to contact our free advice line on 0800 169 2942 or via our website at [www.rafbf.org](http://www.rafbf.org) for details.

You can also find out ways of getting involved with our work. We receive no government funding and could not do what we do without the magnificent support we receive from the RAF and general public.

I would like to close by paying my own tribute to all those serving in the RAF today. Their bravery, commitment and enduring

spirit are worthy of the highest traditions of the Royal Air Force, and this Remembrance Sunday we will stop to give thanks for all that the RAF does in defence of our freedom.

**Air Marshal Sir Robert Wright, Controller, RAF Benevolent Fund**

## Tolls add to country's ruin

So, the price increases at the Dartford Crossing are going ahead, despite an overwhelming 'no' vote from the public, motoring groups, road haulage, and industry at large, to the Government's latest consultation.

This crossing already makes vast profits, so any new price rises are unjustified and will just help fuel our upward spiralling inflation rate.

In a couple of months' time, we will see the tightening up of the London low emissions zone and then in a couple of years time, lorry road-user charging.

All of which eventually has to be paid for by the citizens of this country by

higher prices and making British products more uncompetitive in world markets.

**Terry Hudson**  
**Member of**  
**The Association of British Drivers,**  
**Herne Bay**

## Tackling the rubbish birds

Re: Your article on gulls ripping open rubbish bags.

We suffered with this problem for many years in our street, like many others in Dover. Living by the sea you will get a visit from the gulls and be woken at daybreak by their loud call, but I think Dover District Council may have solved our problem for most residents by issuing us with wheelie bins. Unless they gang up and learn to lift the lids I think our problem has been solved.

My advice to the unfortunate residents who still have to use bags would be to double up on your bags, so making it harder for the gulls to penetrate.

**D Capon**  
**Dover**

## Send criminals to island prison

I have now become the victim of what is the truth about crime figures, which are soaring not dropping.

Warn everyone in Birchington and Thanet for that matter, they are after jewellery and money. That's apart from the damage they cause.

The police were great when they got here. It's not their fault there is a lack of their presence about now days.

Yet another cost cut affecting all of the public services. There needs to be more police not less.

All the criminals know this. So Joe Public, we need to catch these anti-other people individuals who don't give a care about anyone but themselves. Keep your eyes open. We can help our police forces catch them.

Forget about giving them social orders. If we haven't got enough prison space ship them to uninhabited islands where they can just care about themselves and see how they survive then.

**Adrian Ottley**  
**Birchington**

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Please include your name and address, although these will be withheld in exceptional circumstances. Please also include your daytime telephone number for verification (this will not be published). We reserve the right to edit letters.

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## What to do with our daughter's windfall?

**Q** Our 16-year-old daughter has been left £50,000, with us, her parents, named as trustees with responsibility for investing the money until she is 21. Can you suggest a few safe five-year investments, keeping back a small sum that would be accessible for education costs, if necessary?

**A** Because you will have to hand over the fund to your daughter as soon as she reaches 21, there is not enough time for most investments to prove themselves, particularly without taking risks. You can rule out anything connected to the stock market, land, property and life assurance.

That leaves completely safe premium bonds and national savings products, and bank or building society accounts that are covered by the £85,000 compensation scheme. Premium bonds allow an investment of up to £30,000.

Your daughter could win a little or nothing, but she could strike it rich and, of course, the bonds can be encashed at any time. Growth bonds and savings certificates, both fixed and index-linked, are currently not on sale, which rules them out.

Northern Rock is offering 3.3pc on its Little Rock fixed-rate children's bond. This matures in September 2014, so if interest rates rise sharply you would still have a chance to reinvest. And Yorkshire Bank pays a fixed 4.25pc on its five-year bond. I would opt for £30,000 in premium bonds and £20,000 in Yorkshire Bank.

Your daughter may not make a fortune, but she cannot lose.

**Q** We have a house with planning permission for a building plot in the garden. If we put the house and plot up for sale separately, would it make any difference to the tax position if one sold before the other?

**A** Assuming the house is your main or only home, it is exempt from capital gains tax on sale. This includes the garden, as long as the house and garden together are not larger than 5,000 square metres.

I cannot see that the order in which they are sold would affect this exemption. The final three years of ownership are tax-exempt anyway, even if you yourself have moved out.

**Q** I am in dispute with a hire purchase firm over unfair penalty charges. Is it best to complain to trading standards, or what?

**A** Hire purchase disputes can be investigated by the Financial Ombudsman (0800 023 4567), who has the power to order the firm to

**TONY HETHERINGTON**  
MONEY CLINIC

treat you fairly and, if justified, pay you compensation.

**Q** I received a letter from the Prize Winners Club, saying I have been included in a prize promotion and asking me to contact the firm for details. The prizes include various sums of up to £20,000. Is this a scam?

**A** The Prize Winners Club is based in Ross-on-Wye in Herefordshire and it is part of a genuine company called McIntyre & Dodd Marketing. The prizes exist, too. The letter you received mentions cash sums ranging from £25 to £20,000, though a claim form on the reverse also mentions supermarket shopping vouchers. In fact, the closing date for claiming a prize has already passed, but it is interesting that you suspect there must be something questionable about the scheme. The key lies in the wording of the letter, which includes a "unique ID number", and says: "You have definitely won one of our valuable prizes (minimum £25, maximum £20,000 cash) if your unique ID matches any one of the winning ID numbers." Given the name – Prize Winners Club – and the emphasis on the size of the prizes on offer, it would be easy to assume that you have won one.

Wrong! What this boils down to is an offer to sell you an entry in a sweepstake. The company wants you to call a premium rate number to find out whether your ID number has won any prize at all, and the cost of that call is about £9. The bottom line is that you would be spending £9 and might get absolutely nothing in return. Or, to be fair, you just might win £20,000. Since McIntyre & Dodd Marketing is a commercial business, you can take it that it is in this to make a profit and has judged that the money it earns from its premium rate phone number will more than match the cost of providing the prizes. The Office of Fair Trading has taken action against this company in the past and won a court order stopping it from breaching consumer protection rules.

**■ If you have a personal-finance question, write to Tony Hetherington, MyMoney24, Prospect House, Rouen Road, Norwich NR1 1RE. We regret that neither Tony nor the MyMoney24 team can enter into personal correspondence.**



**DIVIDE:** About 80 per cent of web users are happy banking online, but users over-55 are less likely to do so

## Popularity of online banking increases

THE trend towards online banking is continuing, with its ease and convenience meaning that a quarter of internet users now check their accounts online on a daily basis.

About 80pc of web users are confident about making online banking transactions, and that figure rises to 90pc for people aged between 25 and 34.

However, there is still a big divide between the age groups, with only a

quarter of people aged over 55 having ever banked online, according to research by Payyourway, an education campaign run by the Payments Council.

The campaign is highlighting a series of safety tips about online banking.

Its advice includes checking for a locked padlock or an unbroken key symbol in the browser window, which indicates that the site is

secure. You should also make sure that the start of the web address changes from "http" to "https" once you have logged in.

Another key thing to remember is never to access a banking website via a link in an email.

Instead, make sure you type in the bank's website address manually, otherwise you could find yourself clicking through to a fake site run by fraudsters.

## Pipes check could save you heartache

**By Adam Aiken**

adam.aiken@archant.co.uk

A QUICK check on your pipes can help spare you from winter misery once the big freeze gets under way.

Hundreds of homes were drenched last winter by burst pipes. The average cost of the damage was £8,000, according to insurer Aviva, with many claims worth a lot more.

Whole ceilings can be brought down by a burst pipe, and it can take months for a home to dry out after the event.

Even though insurance will cover most of your losses, it will do little to compensate you for the hassle or any damage to heirlooms and irreplaceable personal possessions.

Rob Townend, director of household claims at Aviva, said: "Although

it has been a relatively mild autumn, it is easy to forget how quickly temperatures can plummet, and many homeowners were caught out by the severe weather at the beginning of last winter.

Freezing and burst pipes can be a real problem – in some cases ruining entire floors of your home. The risk can be worse in traditional properties without modern heating systems or properly insulated pipes.

And when homes are left empty, burst or leaking pipes often aren't discovered for many days and so damage can get progressively worse."

For that reason, see if you can ask a neighbour to keep a check on your property if you are away. Pipes burst when they start to thaw, so if someone can pop round when that happens, there is a greater chance that

any leak can be spotted early before it does its worst.

John Miles, business development director at price-comparison website Gocompare.com, said: "A burst pipe can be a major catastrophe, especially if it isn't spotted early."

"The worst damage is done when the thaw comes and the water flows through the burst."

"Water can cause a huge amount of damage to ceilings and walls as well as furniture and carpets, and the cost of repairs and replacements can run into tens of thousands of pounds."

"Insulating your water pipes is a good preventative measure to help avoid burst pipes."

"You can buy mineral wool tape to wrap around your pipes at most DIY shops and it's a pretty easy job."

# Science kit to rent: the company with a wholly new plan

By Nick Ames

nick.ames@archant.co.uk

TWO former Pfizer employees have set up an innovative rental company at Kent Science Park, near Sittingbourne.

Flexible Lab Solutions provides science-based companies, research organisations and universities with the option of leasing hi-tech devices on short-term contracts, avoiding the hefty outlay of buying the machines.

It is Europe's first laboratory-equipment rental company specialising in liquid handlers and microplate readers.

The firm, which also carries out laboratory-equipment servicing, was launched six weeks ago by Tom Martin and David Reed.

Companies moving to the park have praised the way that contracts can be flexible. Initial floospace can be quite small, with the option of expansion should it be necessary or required.

They also say that start-up deals offered at the Swale park compare favourably with those offered elsewhere.

The pair spent a total of 21 years at the pharmaceutical giant's Sandwich research-and-development site, which announced that it was closing earlier this year.

Technical director Martin said the company, which has taken 1,400 sq ft at Kent Science Park, is the only one of its kind operating in the UK and Europe.

"The business model is built upon what we believe is missing from the industry," he said. "Companies spend a large proportion of their capital budget on lab equipment, which is often only required for a short period of time.

"We can give customers the option of renting whatever kit they require, for however long they need it. This can significantly reduce a company's costs at a time when budgets are being reined in more than ever, and we believe it will be of particular interest to new business start-ups."

"Industry interest been fantastic. We've already sent out our first order to the United States. We have a range of 35 products at present but hope to supply the latest hi-tech equipment direct from suppliers. We're having these exciting conversations with a number of suppliers at the moment."

Martin said Kent Science Park provided the perfect base for the business: "We were very impressed with the facilities and the park's excellent transport links to the county, London and the rest of Britain. The refurbishment work the



## NEW START:

Two former Pfizer employees have set up an equipment-rental firm at Kent Science Park, near Sittingbourne

park has undertaken will surely appeal to other Pfizer spin-out companies, hopefully providing us with more customers."

Park site-director James Speck said: "Kent Science Park offers specialist laboratory space to science-based firms of all sizes, making it ideal for spin-out companies."

"We have undertaken a major refurbishment project at the park to ensure we are perfectly placed to accommodate start-ups as well as established firms, ensuring the skilled workers from Pfizer – and across the country – have access to high-quality, cost-effective office and lab space in Kent."

"Flexible Lab Solutions service fits perfectly with what we are doing at KSP."

## ENVIRONMENT

### New recycling chief named at paper plant

GEMMA Barratt has been announced as the new head of recycling at Aylesford Newsprint and will take up the position from the end of November.

Barratt, pictured, who joined the company in 2006, is Aylesford's recycling operations manager responsible for the recovered fibre store and management of recovered paper on site.

She will be in charge of both the area manager team, responsible for sourcing material across the UK, and her existing operations team.



Barratt acknowledged that it's a challenging time to be taking on her new role but said: "I will have an excellent team both out in the field and at the mill whose combined efforts will focus on supporting our suppliers and partners, both existing and new, building relationships to secure the continuous supply of good-quality material and ensuring Aylesford's enduring reputation for service excellence is maintained."

She stressed that while the new strategy will evolve, the department's suppliers and partners were unlikely to notice any major operational changes.

## FUNDING

### Port welcomes investment boost to kick-start regeneration of area

THE Port of Dover has welcomed the news that east Kent's bid for a £40 million Regional Growth Fund has been successful.

Port bosses say that, spread across the districts of Dover, Shepway, Canterbury and Thanet, the fund will support a programme of direct grants for businesses to expand.

The news comes as the Port of Dover continues to develop its own plans.

With a combined cash and share value of £30 million and an additional £1 million per year in cash for the first five years, the Port of Dover Community Trust (PDCT) will target the Dover community, covering priorities ranging from business start-up support to skills and education.



Bob Goldfield, port chief executive, said: "We are delighted east Kent will be receiving Government funding to support its businesses."

"This complements the significant investment planned for Dover through the PDCT, which will act as a catalyst for regeneration and social and economic improvement."

The establishment of the PDCT is now dependent on the Government giving the go-head for its restructuring proposals so that it is freed from any current constraints.

## TALENT

### Guide ranks solicitors as leading way ahead

LAW firm Thomson Snell & Passmore has achieved outstanding rankings in this year's Chambers & Partners awards and has 20 lawyers recognised as Leaders In Their Field – retaining its position as one of the region's leading law firms.

Chambers & Partners is one of the foremost independent guides to the legal profession.

This year the firm, based in Tunbridge Wells and Greenhithe, has added new ranking criteria of client service – for which the clinical-negligence and family teams have been recommended – and commercial awareness – where the dispute-resolution and employment teams have been recommended.

The clinical-negligence team maintains its tier-one ranking and is described as "informative and personable" and providing a "very professional service".

Patricia Fearnley, partner and joint head of the team, is described as "thorough and approachable" and her colleague Fiona Mills is praised for knowing "the right experts to instruct and is very good at client care". The team has also been recommended for client service.

Senior partner James Partridge said: "Everybody has been working hard."

## AWARD

## Industry recognition for quality demolition work

A KENT specialist business has won a global industry award at an event in Amsterdam.

Lee Demolition, based in Gravesend, scooped the Industrial Demolition award at the world trade awards for the field.

The award recognised the firm's completion of a £3.5million 20-acre site clearance of the former SCA Packaging plant in New Hythe.

The project saw Lee Demolition dismantle and demolish a paper-manufacturing plant next to New Hythe train station, requiring a complete bridge lift.

The firm worked with Network Rail, introducing innovative propping and protection measures to ensure that at no time was rail use or the timetable interrupted. Lee Demolition completed the work on time and to budget.

Director David Lee said: "These awards are our industry's highlight, so to win here is a real marker for our business and the quality of work we carry out.

"This was a particularly complex project, environmentally and logistically, and required our entire advanced fleet of plant equipment and 40 staff on site. This award is testament to all our staff's hard work throughout the project."

Lee Demolition also employed environmental-impact mitigation techniques to ensure there were no spillages or contamination of the Medway River, next to the site. Of the site materials, 99 per cent were either reused or recycled.

## NETWORKING

## Website helps firms meet up for success

SWALE MP Gordon Henderson's business website, the Sittingbourne and Sheppey Link 2 Business ([www.blinkss.co.uk](http://www.blinkss.co.uk)), has reached 10,000 hits since it was created in January.

It was set up for local businesses to be kept up to date with business news and information as well as have a direct link for advice.

In October, the website took a new direction by incorporating news for the voluntary and community sector in Sittingbourne and Sheppey and a directory of local organisations in an effort to link the local business, voluntary and community sectors together.

Henderson said: "The website and the business breakfasts have proved very successful over the last year and I hope this continues in 2012."

"Its success is entirely thanks to all the local businesses and voluntary organisations who have so far supported the initiative."

In addition to the website, Henderson also hosts monthly business breakfasts, some of which are themed for discussing specific issues affecting local businesses.

Danny Peters and Gail O'Marra of Rocque Recycling in Queenborough have attended a number of these business breakfasts over the last year.

They said: "As a young enterprising company back in 2010, we found the website and the regular breakfast meetings invaluable to the growth of our business."

"Fifteen months on and not only do we visit the website regularly but we attend the breakfast meetings at every opportunity."

"The networking opportunities have been and continue to be hugely beneficial, and the direct contact with our local MP Gordon Henderson and his dedicated team is priceless."

# Government slammed for rejecting apprenticeships bid for small businesses

By Nick Ames

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A GOVERNMENT decision to reject a Regional Growth Fund bid to support the creation of apprenticeships in small businesses across five counties including Kent has been described as a "slap in the face" by the Federation of Small Businesses (FSB).

No explanation has been put forward, says the group, but it feels that it will do a lot of harm to those looking to start in work.

The federation added that it would be putting pressure on the Government to consider the matter again.

Roger House, FSB chairman for Kent and Medway, said: "The FSB in five counties – East Sussex, Essex, Kent, Norfolk and Suffolk – joined forces with the five county councils plus Medway, Southend-on-Sea and Thurrock unitary authorities to submit an application to the Regional Growth Fund to support the creation of new apprenticeship places in around 250,000 small and medium-sized companies across the five counties.



SO DISAPPOINTED: Roger House, of the FSB

"This was a unique application that brought together the South East Local Enterprise Partnership (SELEP) and the New Anglia Local En-

terprise Partnership in an innovative application to create more than 3,500 much-needed jobs for young people while supporting the growth of small businesses, which the Prime Minister David Cameron and his Government have repeatedly said will rescue our ailing economy.

"Sadly, it seems the vision contained in this application was one which could not be understood by Deputy Prime Minister Nick Clegg, Lord Heseltine, Secretaries of State Vince Cable and Eric Pickles and the others on the panel considering these applications, and this week we were told they had rejected the application.

"At the moment we have no explanation why the bid was rejected, but what we do know is that this decision is a slap in the face for small businesses looking for a small amount of Government support – some £2,500 each – to provide employment and training for an unemployed young person in our area.

"We will be asking why an application described as 'very strong' has been rejected in this way and will be pressing the Government to think again about how they can help create this type of job in small businesses."

## Say cheese for cross-Channel sales



QUALITY: The French are learning there's so much more to British cheese

ENTREPRENEUR George Ward has achieved the gastronomic equivalent of selling snow to Eskimos – he's selling Kent's cheese to the French.

Ward has signed up Histoire Ancienne, a popular bistro in the centre of Calais, for an order of Kelly's Canterbury Goat, one of many cheeses produced by Cheesemakers Of Canterbury to use for a sauce for scallops.

He also has bookings from Tony L'Estienne, chef patron of Michelin-starred La Matelote in Boulogne, and a host of other outlets requesting a tasting.

Ward said: "The reaction to Kentish cheeses was two-phase. Phase one – do you make decent cheese in England? Phase two – wow, great flavour!

"I'm immensely proud of the reaction our cheeses had, and warmed by the attitude of the French towards them.

"Having thought our only cheese was an orange-coloured Cheddar that came in huge rectangular blocks, they now know there is a real renaissance of cheeses of all varieties awaiting them."

The move is being backed by Transmanche Enterprise Network (TEN), a three-year project with the aim of promoting and encouraging entrepreneurs and businesses to develop new cross-border commercial initiatives.

The project is delivered by six partners, with Medway Council acting as the lead partner; the other partners are Canterbury City Council, POM West Flanders Development Agency, Boulogne Chamber of Commerce, Boulogne Development Côte d'Opale and the North of France Business Incubators Network (les ruches d'entreprises du Nord).

Project development officer Natalia Sukhram said: "Feedback on the project so far has been very positive. One of the unique ways in which we are able to support SMEs is by providing them access to contacts they would not otherwise be able to reach."

## New business development manager joins formulated products team

LEADING pharmaceutical manufacturer Aesica has announced a key appointment at its Formulated Products (FP) team.

James Rogers takes up the role of business development manager at Queenborough, having worked for Aesica's Active Pharmaceutical Ingredients (API) team for 10 years.

The 33-year-old has 11 years of experience within the pharmaceutical industry and

moved across to Aesica when the company bought the Abbott manufacturing facility in 2007.

Rogers said: "I am looking forward to building on my API experience in the exciting arena of Formulated Products.

"The Aesica offering continues to expand, with many opportunities to deliver reliable and cost-effective solutions for our growing portfolio of customers."

Alan Raymond, sales and marketing director for Aesica, said: "James's appointment is strategically important to the business as we continue to enhance our global presence and reputation while expanding into new markets."

"Our recent acquisition of three UCB sites in Europe demonstrates our commitment to enhancing our Formulated Products service offering."

# Rising fuel costs put pressure on transport firms

By Nick Ames

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THREE out of four transport operators in Kent have had to pass on increasing fuel costs to their customers, according to a survey.

The Freight Transport Association asked its locally-based members whether the rising cost of fuel over the last 12 months had influenced behaviour. More than 70 per cent of respondents said they had increased their rates, with over one in five admitting having reduced the number of drivers in their workforce.

Also almost half are "likely" and almost one third "certain" to pass on costs further in the following year.

Natalie Chapman, FTA's head of policy for Kent, said: "These results demonstrate how much pressure Kent's transport operators are under. With profit margins in the industry already wafer-thin, the prospect of having to absorb two further planned fuel-duty rises in 2012 does not bode well and we fear more redundancies and insolvencies in the sector."

"Fuel accounts for around 40 per cent of the cost of running a heavy truck, so rising fuel prices are an extremely daunting prospect for many in the industry."

The annual claimant-count statistic for HGV-drivers in Kent has doubled since 2007 and now stands at 120. As an international gateway for trade in the UK, the impact of foreign trucks on its roads is also a major concern here.

FTA's survey revealed that three in four hauliers "strongly agreed" and one in four agreed that "foreign lorries in Kent fill up on cheaper diesel and undercut local businesses".

Chapman said: "The number-one concern for Kent's hauliers is the price they are paying to fill up their tanks, but around 60 per cent of this cost goes straight into Treasury coffers.

"While this is helping fill the deficit gap on the one hand, it is also doing irreparable damage to an industry that simply can't compete in the face of cheaper foreign competition.

"The result is ultimately unemployment and insolvency, which is not good news for the UK's recovery.

"The results we have found in Kent are being played out across the whole of the UK – unless the Government takes action to review its fuel-duty policy, the situation will inevitably get much worse."

**AT RISK:** Two proposed fuel-duty rises will put increasing strain on Kent's haulage companies



## Films help to ease charities through the pain of closure

LEGAL experts Vertex Law have assisted in the production of a series of online video tutorials giving advice, support and guidance to charities considering their future in the light of the economic climate.

The three-part series is aimed at assisting charities that are worried for their future and are considering winding up their organisations or combining their efforts with a similar organisation.

Topics covered in the clips, available on the National Council for Voluntary Organisations website and YouTube, include merging, the transfer of intellectual property rights and when to seek further legal advice.

Kate Mayor, commercial lawyer at Kings Hill-based Vertex Law, who is interviewed in the videos, said she hoped they would be of use to charities considering their future in an innovative way.

"We are increasingly encountering charities that are having their funding withdrawn and are fearing for their futures," she said. "Our advice is to not to bury your head in the sand. Recognising the problems early on is key to a successful merger



**BE PREPARED:** Kate Mayor says the videos aim to make closure easier

and/or closure. Closure or winding up your charity need not be the dreadful event that it is often thought of, if it is faced up to and planned for in plenty of time."

The videos were filmed by blogger Sydney Thornbury, executive director of WebPlay, an arts-education charity that is itself in the process of winding up.

Thornbury said: "It seems like winding up is a big dirty secret that nobody wants to talk about and there is very little useful information readily available.

"With mergers and dissolutions increasingly becoming a concern to the sector, we realised that a series of video clips on the topic would be a handy resource for others to use and were delighted that Vertex Law, which has helped us immensely in recent years, were so keen to help."

Mayor added that the clips were a starting point for charities facing a difficult future.

She said: "The video clips are intended to provide initial tips and support to any charities that are considering merging or winding up. However, each charity's particular circumstances will be unique.

"For more information and advice they should contact our experienced commercial team, who will be happy to help."

## Workshops to help leisure industry make the most of interns and young workers

TOURISM and hospitality bosses from across the county are being invited to find out what young workers can bring to their businesses at an event organised by Visit Kent this month.

Taking place at the Pegwell Bay Hotel, Ramsgate, on Monday, November 28, delegates at the event will hear about the value that interns, apprentices and volunteer graduates can bring to a business and how to go about taking them on.

Speakers include Nadia Lawes of Grads Kent, who will detail why internships are good for business.

Operated by Kent County Council, Grads Kent encourages companies in the county to recruit at graduate level and aims to make it easier for graduates to find work.

Lawes will be followed by Sarah Colclough, of Kent Apprenticeships, who will outline how to take on a hospitality apprentice.

"Kent's schools and colleges have a great track record in producing the county's tourism and hospitality workers of the future," said Kerstin Andrews, head of training at Visit Kent.

"There is always a plentiful supply of

keen and talented young workers and we need to make matching that pool of talent with the available jobs as easy as possible.

"With record levels of youth unemployment, it is even more important that our tourism and hospitality business-owners are aware of not only how easy it is to take on interns and apprentices but also that they appreciate what value those young people can add to their businesses.

"Nadia and Sarah's talks will be invaluable for anyone looking to recruit young, talented and enthusiastic employees but who are unsure how to take the next step."

Other speakers include Frank Thorley, founder and chairman of Thorley Taverns, and Charles Buchanan, of Manston airport. It runs all day, with Lawes's and Colclough's presentations during the afternoon session, which starts at 1.30pm.

Places are still available for any businesses that would like to attend. For more information, phone Farah Miri-Meziane on 07920 792319 or email [farah.miriemeziane@kent.gov.uk](mailto:farah.miriemeziane@kent.gov.uk) for more information.

## Firm cleans up with new exam

A TUNBRIDGE Wells firm has created a new qualification to help staff who are keen to get ahead in the cleaning industry.

Developed by Maid2Clean owner Darren Murray in conjunction with Professor Pat O'Mara from the British Institute of Cleaning Sciences, the MaidVersity exam is the only qualification targeted exclusively at domestic cleaning.

"We are really excited to be able to reward our career-minded staff with the opportunity to sit this exam," said Mr Murray.

"MaidVersity allows our staff to set goals, work hard to achieve them, and then receive the recognition they deserve.

"This new scheme will allow suitable candidates to progress to management or supervisor level, and we hope will also demonstrate to our clients how serious we are about taking care of their homes."

Mr Murray said that by studying an extensive handbook, candidates can complete the 90-question exam and be assessed almost instantly. He added: "Letting a cleaning company into your home is a big deal and a responsibility we take very seriously."

## Studies pay off with NHS degree

A PRESENTATION was held to celebrate the success of staff at Medway Community Healthcare and NHS Medway who have recently completed a foundation degree.

Since September, 2009, the 11 students have attended university one afternoon a fortnight and dedicated at least six hours a week outside of work to study towards a foundation degree in health and social care business administration.

The exam, designed in response to requests by non-clinical staff, gives administrative staff the opportunity to develop new skills and gain a university entry-level qualification.

Sam Clark, organisational development facilitator at Medway Community Healthcare, said: "The foundation degree has supported staff to continue to build on their skills and progress in their careers.

"The presentation celebrated their success and rewarded all of the work and long hours they have each contributed."

# Longer placements will help firms grow

By Steve Knight

steve.knight@archant.co.uk

EDUCATION leaders have called on the business community to offer more student work placements in Kent.

The appeal was made by representatives from the University of Greenwich and MidKent College at the latest TSP+ Forum, organised by Tunbridge Wells-based law firm Thomson Snell & Passmore.

Speaking at the event at Shorne Woods Country Park, near Gravesend, Professor Alan Reed – director of regional development at Greenwich – said year-long placements would give students a 'sandwich' approach to their degree studies.

He said: "There is often the complaint from businesses that they do not benefit from short-term work placements as the students take time to get up to speed. However, businesses that offer longer placements say they see a big difference in the individuals and get much more out of the process.

"Employing a student for a year also allows the company to have the undergraduate on a year-long probation; in effect taking a look at their suitability to the role before deciding whether to employ them.

"When these students graduate they are more employable as they are seen to be more 'business ready'."

MidKent College vice-principal Sue McLeod also spoke at the TSP+ Forum, telling

delegates how the academic institution was working to add a business element into its variety of courses.

The college, which has campuses in Medway and Maidstone, has a 'work ready' focus in all its courses across a wide range of subjects and has increased the number of apprenticeships available through links with companies across the county.

Ms McLeod said: "We are increasingly looking to meet the needs of business. The key is to embed employability skills into flexible vocational degrees, which means offering programmes that have been written jointly with industry and including work-based assessments.

"We are keen to forge more partnerships with business to provide meaningful work placements."

Nick Horton – head of dispute resolution at Thomson Snell & Passmore – added: "Despite the downturn, one of the challenges facing businesses in Kent and Medway remains recruitment, particularly of highly skilled workers. Therefore any initiative that brings higher and further education providers, their students and businesses across the county together is to be congratulated.

"Linking such competent graduates with Kent businesses will undoubtedly help to add value to the county and retain skilled workers."

Call 01322 623702 for more info about the TSP+ Forum.

What is your business doing to help Keep Kent Working? Do you send employees on training courses to aid their personal development or run apprenticeship schemes? If you have a good news story email editorial@kosmedia.co.uk or give him a call on 01303 817136.



APPEAL: Professor Alan Reed and Sue McLeod gave speeches at the TSP+ Forum

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Council

## Charlton Athletic football course to help unemployed young find work

JOBLESS young people in Medway, Swale and Gravesend have a chance to kick-start their careers with a football course run by Charlton Athletic and Fairbridge.

The five-day 'Get Started with Football' course – starting on Monday, November 21 – aims to get young people back into work or training by improving their confidence, skills and motivation.

The Prince's Trust is currently looking for unemployed

16-19 year-olds to sign up to the free course, which will take place in Medway.

All participants will complete the FA Level 1 Certificate in Football Coaching.

After the course the Prince's Trust provides mentoring support to help young people move into work or training.

Transport will be paid and lunches provided to all young people taking part.

A taster day for the course will take place on Wednesday,

November 16. For more information or to book a place call Harj Sangha on 07795 166355 or text FOOTBALL to the same number.

The Prince's Trust works with 13-30 year-olds who have struggled at school, have been in care, are long-term unemployed or have been in trouble with the law.

More than three in four young people helped by the charity move into work or training.



HELP: Director David and administrator Leigh

able to help individuals save a considerable amount of time, money and hassle, as well as having the privilege of imparting some of the trade secrets and knowledge gathered over the last 30 years."

Lauretta Winstanley, from CITB Construction Skills (the sector skills council for the industry), said: "In my opinion the benefits of the school are immense, in terms of encouraging life-long learning and empowering individuals to embrace the challenge of adopting new skills."

Visit [www.theschoolofwoodwork.com](http://www.theschoolofwoodwork.com) for more information about the staff and the variety of courses on offer.

## DIY disasters saved by new wood venture

A BESPOKE carpentry firm has launched the South East's first dedicated woodworking school.

The Woodwork School, which is the brainchild of Hythe-based Listed Joinery, offers training for all abilities and age groups across a broad range of carpentry, joinery and DIY disciplines.

Courses are available over a variety of durations, from three days and five days to a full 10-week evening class.

Managing director and school principal David Smith said the venture was taking a fresh approach compared to conventional carpentry courses, providing a syllabus that will give content-rich, practical lessons aimed at improving the skills of keen woodworking enthusiasts, as well as empowering home owners to undertake significant projects that would otherwise incur hefty costs from tradesmen.

He added: "In recent years we have been repeatedly asked by our carpentry and renovation clients if short, practical courses existed where they could get a flavour for our trade, or could help them take on projects such as hanging doors.

"So we put together a wide-ranging package of practical lessons which would enable individuals of all abilities to feel confident in undertaking projects of their own or, indeed, to change careers.

"We feel this is a great time to be launching the first specialist school in the South East. Everyone is suffering in the recession and we're

## Nuffield Foundation cash boost to enable science students' progress

SCIENCE students can receive a bursary from the Nuffield Foundation to carry out research projects at the University of Greenwich at Medway next summer.

This year nine students from schools in Medway, Maidstone and Tonbridge were each awarded £80 per week for four to six weeks, to experiment with polymers and proteins in the School of Science.

Dr Nichola Coleman, who co-ordinated the projects, said:

"The Nuffield students who were with us were outstanding. We were very impressed by the quality of their research and we welcome future applications from our local schools."

The Nuffield Foundation also provided Andrew Hurt, a second year chemistry student at the University of Greenwich, with an undergraduate bursary to carry out research on nanoparticles for tissue engineering.

He said: "During my project I learned that certain materials

can stimulate the body's ability to repair its own bone tissue. These are biodegradable so they leave the body after they have begun their work."

"I've now begun to develop a scaffold for bone tissue cells to grow and hope to continue this research for a PhD."

Teachers can find out more details about next year's scheme by emailing Dr Coleman at [n.coleman@gre.ac.uk](mailto:n.coleman@gre.ac.uk).

Visit [www.nuffieldfoundation.org](http://www.nuffieldfoundation.org) for more information.



### 6th Form Open Evening

Thursday 17th November 2011

6.00pm - 8.00pm

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Borden is an 11 – 18 Grammar School, admitting boys into

Year 7 and boys and girls into the Sixth Form.  
A Specialist School for Sport and Modern Languages

Headteacher: Mr H. S Vafeas MA

Boys and girls in Year 11  
and their parents are  
warmly invited to

### SIXTH FORM Open Evening

Tuesday 22nd November

6.30 p.m. - 8.30 p.m.

Heads of Department will be available throughout the evening to discuss courses

A talk about options and opportunities will take place at 6:30pm & 7.45pm

Do come and see what Borden Grammar School Sixth Form can offer you

#### BORDEN'S SIXTH FORM OFFERS:

- A tradition of strong academic achievement
- Excellent guidance for University and career options
- Excellent library, study and social facilities for Sixth Form
- Well qualified staff committed to student success
- A friendly environment to learn in

Tel: 01795 424192 Fax: 01795 424026 Email: [school@bordengrammar.kent.sch.uk](mailto:school@bordengrammar.kent.sch.uk)  
You can also visit our website at [www.bordengrammar.kent.sch.uk](http://www.bordengrammar.kent.sch.uk)



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"We grow people"

Abbey Court School provides a stimulating, challenging and safe learning environment where pupils and staff, efforts, work and achievement are celebrated.

We are currently looking for a

### TEMPORARY TEACHER FOR PUPILS WITH SEVERE AND PROFOUND LEARNING DIFFICULTIES

Starting 1st January 2012 until 30th March 2012 (fixed term contract)  
MPS + 2 SEN Points

The school is located in pleasant surroundings and we have educational resources of enviable proportions. This post would suit newly qualified teachers or those wishing to gain further experience of SEN.

Comprehensive induction and training will be provided.

Telephone enquiries and informal visits to the school welcomed

This school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Any offer of appointment for post is subject to a satisfactory Criminal Records Bureau Disclosure.

**Due to the conditions and complex needs of the pupils at Abbey Court School, continuity and consistency of support is paramount and therefore candidates for all positions will need to commit to the full working hours of the post.**

**Closing Date: 25th November 2011**

For further details and a job description, please contact Linda Taylor, Business Manager, Abbey Court School, Rede Court Road, Strood, Rochester, Kent ME2 3SP (Tel: 01634 338236).



**Ashford International Hotel**  
\*\*\*\*

Ashford International Hotel is currently looking for two experienced and one trainee chef to join our team

**Chef de Partie £16,500 per annum**

As Chef de Partie you will support the Chef in motivating the Kitchen team to provide exceptional one of a kind service and food at all times and to make sure that our guests are wow'd by their food experience at Q Hotels. We like individuality, and not just in our people. Our menus are created at each hotel by our kitchen team's inspiration and imagination - no company standard menus for us! Just kitchen teams who want to create and cook what our customers want to eat and who really can't do enough for our guests. We've plenty to keep us busy producing great food for our hotel lounge, restaurant and room service, as well as our events and wedding business.

**Commis Chef £13,000 per annum**

We are looking for a Commis Chef that is passionate about food and cooking, enjoys the buzz of being busy, has a good level of spoken English, Determined and Enthusiastic and happy to work as part of a team. To be committed to work hard as part of our kitchen team which will include weekends and bank holidays

Previous experience in a similar role and/or NVQ level 1/2 or similar qualification in Food Preparation

Ideally CIEH Level 2 Food Hygiene, college leaver also welcome to apply.

#### Contact information

If you are interested in applying for this position, please forward your CV and covering letter to Jemma Wilkins, HR Manager at [jwilkins@qhotels.co.uk](mailto:jwilkins@qhotels.co.uk) or apply online at [www.qhotels.co.uk](http://www.qhotels.co.uk)

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For an application pack please visit our website at [www.achuk.com](http://www.achuk.com) Alternatively e-mail [louise.burrows@achuk.com](mailto:louise.burrows@achuk.com) or contact Human Resources on 0208 502 8871.



#### Part Time Medical Receptionist

We need a new person to join our busy, friendly reception team at the Town Medical Centre, Sevenoaks. Experience not essential but calm, unflappable nature absolutely necessary! If you are available to work 10 hours (2 days) a week, plus holiday cover, in this rewarding job as part of a happy, progressive practice, please apply in writing with your CV to:

Keith Salter  
Practice Manager  
Town Medical Centre  
25 London Road  
Sevenoaks TN13 1AR



## Bradstow School

Bradstow is a fascinating and unique residential school for children between the ages of 5 & 19, set in 13 acres of parkland just a few hundred metres from the sandy beaches of Broadstairs. We seek to meet the needs of children with autism and severe learning difficulties, and have achieved national recognition for our developments in Communication and Behaviour Management.

#### HOUSEPARENT - CHILDCARE

Working as part of the childcare team, this role involves providing care and support to students mornings, evenings and weekends being a student's Keyworker and some management responsibility.

£19,621 - £22,221 per annum - 41 hours per week (including split shifts and weekends) - Term time only, plus 2 weeks\*

#### WEEKEND TEAM SUPPORT WORKER - CHILDCARE

Part of the childcare team, this role involves providing care and support to students during late or early shifts each weekend.

£4,994 - 15 hours per week, (weekends only) - Term time only, plus 2 weeks\*

#### CHILDCARE SUPPORT ASSISTANTS

As part of the childcare team, these roles involve providing care and support to students mornings, evenings and weekends.

£10,079 plus 10% per annum - 36.5 hours per week, (including weekends) - Term time only, plus 2 weeks\*

\*For these roles there will also be up to a maximum of two weeks for the school's respite care provision if required, for which there would be extra payment.

For all posts we look for candidates who are mature, practical, flexible and responsible with a patient and caring attitude to deal sensitively with vulnerable children.

We are committed to sustainability and preserving the environment and therefore encourage applications by email, so for an application form and information pack please email [personnel@bradstow.wandsworth.sch.uk](mailto:personnel@bradstow.wandsworth.sch.uk) Or you may call 01843 608727 (24 hour recruitment answer machine).

Please note that CV's will not be considered.

The closing date for all applications is 12 noon Friday 25th November 2011



[www.bradstow.wandsworth.sch.uk](http://www.bradstow.wandsworth.sch.uk)

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Please refer to our website at <http://www.oasiswomensrefuge.org/vacancies.html> for a description of the post and contact details.

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Please contact: Stella at Head Office on 01732 740088,  
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[www.benecareltd.co.uk](http://www.benecareltd.co.uk)

**Head Chef**  
required for a village pub

that provides freshly prepared and locally sourced food. We require a capable and experienced Chef to carry out all Head Chef duties with skill and attention to detail, someone who has a passion for good food and maintaining consistent levels of food quality. We are looking for someone who is prepared to lead and develop their staff, prepared to work hard to maintain high standards and who has a flair for creative country pub dining. Needs to have good communication skills, can maintain high levels of cleanliness and a well stocked and accountable kitchen. If you like working as a team and have a 'can do' attitude we look forward to hearing from you.

Salary circa £23K (depending on experience)  
Experience and references are an absolute must.  
If this sounds like you - please reply to Anna at [thekingsarmsboxley@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:thekingsarmsboxley@yahoo.co.uk) and attach a c.v.



The Spencer Wing is the independently owned and managed 22 bed private hospital situated on the QEJM Hospital site. We also have a 4 bed unit at the William Harvey Hospital in Ashford.

The continuing growth of our business has resulted in a vacancy for the following staff:

## Staff Nurse (Margate) Outpatients

1 Part-time position available

**Closing date for applications - Friday 18 November 2011**

Qualifications: Registered Nurse 1st Level

Evidence of continual professional development

To discuss this opportunity or to arrange an informal visit, please contact  
Sue Bowe - Outpatient Sister or Carolyn Flegg - Staff Nurse  
on 01843 234555 Ext: 63425

For job description and application form please contact:

Jo Edwards, East Kent Medical Services Ltd

The Spencer Wing, QEJM Hospital, Ramsgate Road, Margate, Kent CT9 4BG

Telephone: 01843 234556

Fax: 01843 296333

E-mail: [jo.edwards@thespencerwing.com](mailto:jo.edwards@thespencerwing.com)

The Spencer Wing is an equal opportunity employer  
This position is subject to a Criminal Records Bureau Disclosure check



**Northfleet School for Girls**  
CO-OPERATIVE LEARNING TRUST

We are a highly successful and ambitious 11-18 school. Recently rebuilt, the Learning Trust offers an exciting opportunity to teach in a collegiate atmosphere where our motto "Always Learning, Learning All Ways" applies to everyone.

Situated within easy reach of London and Ebbsfleet, the school has a strong sense of community and a belief in the values of self and social responsibility.

Applications are invited from experienced teachers for:

### AST or Aspiring AST in each of the following subjects - English and Mathematics

To join our team developing outstanding learning with staff and students (Salary subject to current status and grade. Qualified AST range 5 to 9) Join our team of examination invigilators who support the monitoring of both internal and public examinations. Full training given. Hours by agreement.

Appointment will be subject to full enhanced CRB check.

Application form and further information available on request or on school website ([www.northfleetgirls.kent.sch.uk](http://www.northfleetgirls.kent.sch.uk)). Applications to **Personnel, at Northfleet School for Girls, Hall Road, Northfleet, Kent DA11 8AQ Tel: 01474 831020** or e-mail [personnel@northfleetgirls.kent.sch.uk](mailto:personnel@northfleetgirls.kent.sch.uk)

Closing date for applications :

18 November 2011

Interviews provisionally scheduled:  
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## Trainee Human Resources Officer

£19,126 - £23,708 + Essential Car User Allowance of up to £1,239 pa  
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You will be qualified to degree level or diploma equivalent and possess effective verbal and written communications. The ability to analyse data and produce simple and clear reports highlighting outcomes with possible solutions will be required.

Application forms and job descriptions can be downloaded from [www.kca.org.uk](http://www.kca.org.uk). You can also email [recruitment@kca.org.uk](mailto:recruitment@kca.org.uk) or call 01795 590795 and select option three. Please quote reference 830 in your application.

Closing date: 18 November 2011. Interview date: 28 November 2011.

KCA (UK) is committed to the principles of equality of opportunity for all.  
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Do you like to follow the rules?

- The Marlowe Academy is looking to recruit a team of invigilators who will be employed for external examinations taking place at the school; the current exam seasons are November, January, March and May - June.
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- The rate of pay offered is £7.40 per hour and this includes time spent on training.
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Please apply by email or in writing to the Exams Officer:

Mrs P Cox  
The Marlowe Academy  
Stirling Way  
Ramsgate  
CT12 6NB

Email: [patricia.cox@marloweacademy.co.uk](mailto:patricia.cox@marloweacademy.co.uk)



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The organisation provides support, advice and information to people over the age of 18 who care (unpaid) for a relative or friend; we are partly funded by Social Services and The Primary Care Trust.

**Project Worker:** We are looking for a confident, versatile, sensitive and articulate person who will work with us to support Carers and to develop and deliver new services across the locality. Your main role will be to provide support and information to Carers on the phone or to those calling in at our Carers' Centre. You will also liaise with other agencies, make and take referrals, facilitate, develop and organise support groups, services and events.

This position is mainly office based, however you will be required to travel outside the office to attend meetings, complete one to one Carer's Assessments in clients' homes, to deliver our outreach services, and represent the organisation at external events. A full driving licence and your own transport are essential.

For an application pack, please write to:

**Tricia Cole CEO**

**Carers' Support - Dover District & Thanet**  
10 Victoria Road, Deal, Kent CT14 7AP  
or email: [tricia@carers-doverdistrict.org](mailto:tricia@carers-doverdistrict.org)

**Closing date: For returned applications by Thursday 1st December**  
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Must have experience in working with people using the principles of positive behaviours support

For more information or to send your details please contact Zoe [zoe@communitynursingcareagency.co.uk](mailto:zoe@communitynursingcareagency.co.uk) 01233 619530



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Salary is negotiable depending on experience.

Working as part of a team, duties will include, purchase and sales ledger, credit control, banking, processing credit card payments, accounts and telephone enquiries. Ideally suited to an individual who possess strong sales ledger and purchase ledger skills.

It is essential the applicant has proven experience in a similar role and has excellent oral and written skills as well as being proficient in Microsoft office programs and SAGE 500. Full driving licence with own transport is also essential due to the location.

To apply please email a covering letter and CV to:

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**Northfleet School for Girls**

**CO-OPERATIVE LEARNING TRUST**

We are a highly successful and ambitious 11-18 school. Recently rebuilt, the Learning Trust offers an exciting opportunity to teach in a collegiate atmosphere where our motto 'Always Learning, Learning All Ways' applies to everyone.

Situated within easy reach of London and Ebbesfleet, the school has a strong sense of community and a belief in the values of self and social responsibility.

Applications are invited from experienced teachers for:

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within our Physical World Domain which delivers Science, Geography and DT  
A strong programme of visits and challenge events exists.

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Application form and further information available on request or on school website ([www.northfleetgirls.kent.sch.uk](http://www.northfleetgirls.kent.sch.uk)). Applications to **Personnel, at**

**Northfleet School for Girls, Hall Road, Northfleet, Kent DA11 8AQ**  
Tel: **01474 831020** or e-mail [personnel@northfleetgirls.kent.sch.uk](mailto:personnel@northfleetgirls.kent.sch.uk)

Closing date for applications : **18 November 2011**

Interviews provisionally scheduled: **week commencing 28 November 2011**



**Bredlands Lane**  
**Sturry**  
**Canterbury**  
**Kent**  
**CT2 0HD**  
NOR: 435  
Academy Leader: Miss H Foster

Twin Specialisms: Business & Enterprise and Visual, Creative & Performing Arts

**Catering Assistant**

Maternity Cover  
Salary Band 2

£12,903 - £14,311 pro rata

9.30 - 2.30pm Mon - Fri Term Time plus Inset

We are looking to appoint a Catering Assistant to join our catering team to undertake a range of duties. Experience preferred but not essential. Initially for a six month contract to cover maternity leave.

Application forms are available on line at [www.spiressacademy.com](http://www.spiressacademy.com)  
Or

submit a letter of application and curriculum vitae to:

**Mrs M Wigington - HR Manager**  
**Spires Academy, Bredlands Lane, Sturry, Canterbury, Kent, CT2 0HD**

Closing date: **Friday 18th November 2011 at noon**

**Spires Academy is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of young people and expect all staff to share this commitment. The successful applicant will be subject to appropriate child protection screening including checks with previous employers and the Criminal Records Bureau**

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RAISING ASPIRATIONS - DEVELOPING SKILLS - DELIVERING QUALITY

We are seeking outstanding individuals to join our highly qualified, experienced and motivated teams, many of whom have come from industry. We offer our students the best learning and training experience and we have the following vacancy available:

### LECTURER IN MAINTENANCE OPERATIONS

37 hours per week, all year

Salary: £25,589 - £30,205

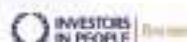
The successful candidate will have a specialist ability to deliver a high quality learning experience in the Maintenance Operations area of construction, combined with a demonstrable capacity to cover ideally two of the following areas, Carpentry, Painting and Decorating, Brickwork, Plastering, Electrical or Plumbing.

**Closing date: 16 November 2011**

For further details and to apply online please visit our website [www.thanet.ac.uk](http://www.thanet.ac.uk) and click on 'About us' then 'Staff Vacancies'. Alternatively contact the HR Office, Thanet College, Ramsgate Road, Broadstairs, Kent, CT10 1PN or telephone our application line for an application pack on (01843) 605052

*Promoting Equality*

*Preventing Discrimination*



RAISING ASPIRATIONS - DEVELOPING SKILLS - DELIVERING QUALITY

We are seeking outstanding individuals to join our highly qualified, experienced and motivated teams, many of whom have come from industry. We offer our students the best learning and training experience and we have the following vacancies available:

### LECTURER IN MOTOR VEHICLE

### ARE YOU AN EXPERIENCED AND QUALIFIED MECHANIC WHO IS LOOKING TO MOVE IN TO TEACHING?

Thanet College is looking to recruit a lecturer to deliver high quality education and training, to support students and trainees effectively (including individual and group tutorials), and to further develop the Engineering and Computing curriculum.

Previous lecturing experience and a teaching qualification are preferable but not essential.

Salary Scale: £25,589 - £30,205 for 37 hours per week all year

### INVIGILATORS

£7.69 PER HOUR

We are looking for a number of Invigilators for examinations throughout the year, (although mainly in May and June) at Thanet College and our other sites within Thanet.

**Closing date: 23 November 2011**

For further details and to apply online please visit our website [www.thanet.ac.uk](http://www.thanet.ac.uk) and click on 'About us' then 'Staff Vacancies'. Alternatively contact the HR Office, Thanet College, Ramsgate Road, Broadstairs, Kent, CT10 1PN or telephone our application line for an application pack on (01843) 605052

*Promoting Equality*  
*Preventing Discrimination*



## Career opportunities at MidKent College

MidKent College based in the Medway Towns and Maidstone is seeking to appoint outstanding individuals in the following areas:

### Lecturer in Child Care

### & Lecturer in Health Care

Ref: P0323

Ref: P0651

Salary: £24,096 - £28,963 pro rata (dependent on qualifications and experience)  
Medway

Two part time positions available at 18.5 hours per week

We are looking for knowledgeable and experienced candidates to deliver CACHE Child Care and Health and Social Care programmes at various levels. The successful candidates will have the ability to motivate students and be flexible and adaptable in their teaching methods. The applicants must have a relevant vocational/academic qualification and have, or be willing to work towards, a teaching qualification. Recent industry experience would be advantageous.

**Closing date: 12 noon,  
Wednesday 16 November 2011**

MidKent College and RBLI Employment Solutions are working in partnership to support disabled applicants. For assistance please contact RBLI on 0800783114 or visit their website [www.rbli.co.uk](http://www.rbli.co.uk)

For an application pack and further details visit [www.midkent.ac.uk](http://www.midkent.ac.uk) or e mail [job.applications@midkent.ac.uk](mailto:job.applications@midkent.ac.uk). Alternatively you may contact Human Resources on 01634 383102.

The College is committed to safeguarding young people and vulnerable adults, therefore any offer of employment will be subject to a CRB check.



**HIGHWAYS - District of Ashford****KENARDINGTON LEVEL CROSSING, KENARDINGTON (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2011****THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

Because of level crossing works, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Kenardington Level Crossing, Kenardington, from Thursday 17 November 2011 at 11.00 pm until Friday 18 November at 7.00 am.

Snargate Road / Hogg Lane will be closed at the level crossing.

The alternative route is via Hogg Lane, Arrowhead Lane, Church Road, B2067 Kenardington Road, Appledore Road, Church Lane, Kenardington and Snargate Road.

**PLUMPTON, WYE, ASHFORD (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2011****THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

Because of the installation of a new electricity supply cable, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Plumpton, Wye, Ashford, from 14 November 2011 for up to 14 weeks, or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed between the junctions with Hinckhill Road and Hampton Lane.

The alternative route is via Hinckhill Road, Spelders Hill, The Street, Amage Road, Brabourne Road and Hampton Lane.

Bockham Lane traffic affected should use Quarlington Lane.

The road will be re-opened over the Christmas period.

**WAREHORNE LEVEL CROSSING, WAREHORNE (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER NOVEMBER 2011****THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

Because of Network Rail level crossing works, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Warehorne Level Crossing, Warehorne, from 16 November 2011 at 11.00 pm until 17 November at 7.00 am.

Church Road, Warehorne will be closed at the Level Crossing.

The alternative route is via B2067 Kenardington Road, Appledore Road, Church Lane, Firs Lane, Hogg Lane and Arrowhead Lane.

**HIGHWAYS - District of Canterbury****THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL (A257 CANTERBURY, LITTLEBOURNE, ICKHAM AND WELL AND WINGHAM) (50 MPH SPEED LIMIT) ORDER 2011****ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ORDER 1984**

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL, acting as the local traffic authority and in exercise of their powers under sections 84(1), (2) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 and of all other enabling powers, and after consultation with the chief officer of police in accordance with Part III of Schedule 9 to the said Act of 1984, has made the following Orders:

1. No person shall drive any motor vehicle at a speed exceeding 50 miles per hour on the lengths of road specified in the Schedule 1.
2. The Interpretation Act 1978 shall apply for the interpretation of this Order as it applies for the interpretation of the Act of Parliament.
3. The relevant part of the Order specified in Schedule 2 of this Order is hereby revoked and its provisions are consolidated into this Order.
4. This Order shall come into operation on the 14th day of November 2011 and may be cited as "The Kent County Council (A257 Canterbury, Littlebourne, Ickham and Well and Wingham) (50 mph Speed Limit) Order 2011".

**SCHEDULE 1**

The A257 Littlebourne Road from a point 80metres east of the junction of the A257 and Stodmarsh Road, Canterbury to Canterbury Road, Wingham at a point 85metres west of the property entrance to 'Little Acres' (The Hill, Littlebourne).

The A257 Wingham Road, Littlebourne from a point 40metres west of the entrance to Lee Priory to a point 45metres east of the entrance to 'Fairview Nursery', Canterbury Road, Wingham.

**SCHEDULE 2 (Part of Order to be Revoked)**

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL (VARIOUS ROADS, WINGHAM) (RESTRICTED ROADS AND 50 MPH SPEED LIMITS) ORDER 2001

Full details are contained in the Order which, together with the relevant plans, any Orders amended by the proposals and a statement of reasons for proposing to make the Order may be examined on Mondays to Fridays at Sessions House, Maidstone ME14 1XQ, between 8.30am and 5.00pm and at Canterbury City Council, Council Offices, Military Road, Canterbury

during normal opening times.

Any person wishing to question the validity of the Order or any of the provisions contained therein on the grounds that it is not within the powers of the relevant enabling Act or that any requirement of any such enabling Act or of any regulations made thereunder have not been complied with may within 6 weeks from the date on which the Order was made make application to the High Court for this purpose

**KING'S ROAD, HERNE BAY (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2011****THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

Because of water mains replacement works, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting eastbound through traffic on King's Road, Herne Bay, on or after 28 November 2011 for up to 2 weeks or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed eastbound only, between the junctions with Beach Street and William Street.

The alternative route is via Beach Street, Queen Street and William Street.

Westbound traffic is unaffected.

**NEW HOUSE LANE, CHARTHAM (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2011****THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

Because of gully cleaning in the carriageway, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on New House Lane, Chatham, from 19 November 2011 for up to 2 days, between 9.30 am and 3.30 pm.

The road will be closed in the vicinity of numbers 12 - 39. The alternative route is via Chatham Downs Road and Iffin Lane.

**ST DUNSTAN'S TERRACE, CANTERBURY (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2011****THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

Because of ducting works in the carriageway, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on St Dunstan's Terrace, Canterbury, on or after 14 November 2011 for up to 4 days or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed at the junction with London Road.

The alternative route is via London Road, New Street and Orchard Street.

**SYDNEY ROAD, WHITSTABLE (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2011****THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

Because of gas mains replacement works, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Sydney Road, Whitstable, on or after 14 November 2011 for up to 2 weeks or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed in 2 phases, as shown below. The dates of the phases may vary subject to weather and ground conditions. The exact dates will be notified to local residents and signposted on site.

The initial phase is in the vicinity of the junction with St Andrew's Close (outside number 121).

The alternative route is via Saddleton Road, Norman Road and Gosselin Street.

The other phase is in the vicinity of number 32.

The alternative route is via Norman Road, Gosselin Street, and Sydney Road.

**HIGHWAYS - District of Dover****THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL (A257 CANTERBURY, LITTLEBOURNE, ICKHAM AND WELL AND WINGHAM) (50 MPH SPEED LIMIT) ORDER 2011****ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ORDER 1984**

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL, acting as the local traffic authority and in exercise of their powers under sections 84(1), (2) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 and of

all other enabling powers, and after consultation with the chief officer of police in accordance with Part III of Schedule 9 to the said Act of 1984, has made the following Orders:

1. No person shall drive any motor vehicle at a speed exceeding 50 miles per hour on the lengths of road specified in the Schedule 1.
2. The Interpretation Act 1978 shall apply for the interpretation of this Order as it applies for the interpretation of the Act of Parliament.
3. The relevant part of the Order specified in Schedule 2 of this Order is hereby revoked and its provisions are consolidated into this Order
4. This Order shall come into operation on the 14th day of November 2011 and may be cited as "The Kent County Council (A257 Canterbury, Littlebourne, Ickham and Well and Wingham) (50 mph Speed Limit) Order 2011".

**SCHEDULE 1**

The A257 Littlebourne Road from a point 80metres east of the junction of the A257 and Stodmarsh Road, Canterbury to Canterbury Road, Wingham at a point 85metres west of the property entrance to 'Little Acres' (The Hill, Littlebourne).

The A257 Wingham Road, Littlebourne from a point 40metres west of the entrance to Lee Priory to a point 45metres east of the entrance to 'Fairview Nursery', Canterbury Road, Wingham.

**SCHEDULE 2 (Part of Order to be Revoked)**

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL (VARIOUS ROADS, WINGHAM) (RESTRICTED ROADS AND 50 MPH SPEED LIMITS) ORDER 2001

Full details are contained in the Order which, together with the relevant plans, any Orders amended by the proposals and a statement of reasons for proposing to make the Order may be examined on Mondays to Fridays at Sessions House, Maidstone ME14 1XQ, between 8.30am and 5.00pm and at Canterbury City Council, Council Offices, Military Road, Canterbury during normal opening times.

Any person wishing to question the validity of the Order or any of the provisions contained therein on the grounds that it is not within the powers of the relevant enabling Act or that any requirement of any such enabling Act or of any regulations made thereunder have not been complied with may within 6 weeks from the date on which the Order was made make application to the High Court for this purpose

**THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL (A257 CANTERBURY ROAD, WINGHAM) (30 MPH SPEED LIMIT) ORDER 2011****ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ORDER 1984**

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL, acting as the local traffic authority and in exercise of their powers under sections 84(1), (2) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 and of all other enabling powers, and after consultation with the chief officer of police in accordance with Part III of Schedule 9 to the said Act of 1984, has made the following Orders:

1. No person shall drive any motor vehicle at a speed exceeding 30 miles per hour in the location specified in the schedule.

**Schedule:**

From a point 280metres west of the junction of School Lane to a point 45metres east of the entrance to 'Fairview Nursery' (A257 Canterbury Road, Wingham).

Full details are contained in the Order which, together with the relevant plans, any Orders amended by the proposals and a statement of reasons for proposing to make the Order may be examined on Mondays to Fridays at Sessions House, Maidstone ME14 1XQ, between 8.30am and 5.00pm and at Dover District Council Offices, White Cliffs Business Park, Whitfield, Dover during normal opening times.

Any person wishing to question the validity of the Order or any of the provisions contained therein on the grounds that it is not within the powers of the relevant enabling Act or that any requirement of any such enabling Act or of any regulations made thereunder have not been complied with may within 6 weeks from the date on which the Order was made make application to the High Court for this purpose

**STRAKERS HILL, EAST STUDDAL (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2011****THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

Because of carriageway repairs and resurfacing, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Strakers Hill, East Studdal, on or after 14 November 2011 for up to 1 week or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed between the junctions with Homestead Lane and Roman Road.

**HIGHWAYS - Borough of Maidstone****THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL (PILGRIMS WAY, DETLING) (PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2011****THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

NOTICE is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting the use by through traffic on Pilgrims Way, at the junction with Queens Way on or after Sunday 20th November 2011 when required for a period of up to 1 day or until such works are complete.

The alternative route is via Thurnham Lane, Ware Street, Hockers Lane, The Street.

BT Openreach apologise for any inconvenience caused by these essential works that are necessary for cable repair works. Should you require any further information about these works, their contact is Mandy Richardson on 08700 500792.

**THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL (YELSTED ROAD, STOCKBURY) (PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2011****THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

NOTICE is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting the use by through traffic on Yelsted Road outside of Poppy View on or after Saturday 3rd December 2011 for a period of up to 2 days or until such works are complete.

The alternative route is via Yelsted Road, Gauger Lane, Magpie Lane, Lower Hartlip Road, Cowstead Road, Bull Lane, Hill Green Road, South Street Road, Yelsted Road.

UK Power Networks apologise for any inconvenience caused by these essential works that are necessary to lay high voltage cables. Should you require any further information about these works, the contact is Scott Davis of Amber Langis Limited on 01732 783986.

**HIGHWAYS - District of Sevenoaks****RIDLEY HILL, ASH CUM RIDLEY - (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2011****THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public whilst works are carried out on or near the highway the Kent County Council intends to make an Order restricting the use by vehicular traffic on Ridley Hill, Ash Cum Ridley.

The Order will become effective on 28 November 2011, will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months; the works are planned for 29 November 2011 and will last 1 day. These restrictions will be effective when the appropriate signage is in place.

The alternative route for the above restriction will be via: Rectory Road, New Street Road, Hartley Bottom Road and Bunkers Hill.

The purpose of the closure is to facilitate tree felling.

For further information, please contact  
Kent County Council Highways and Transportation,  
on 08458 247 800 (local rate)  
or visit [www.kent.gov.uk/highways](http://www.kent.gov.uk/highways)



**HIGHWAYS - District of Shepway****BEACHBOROUGH, NEWINGTON, FOLKESTONE (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER NOVEMBER 2011****THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

Because of works to remove overhanging tree canopy, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Beachborough, Newington, Folkestone, on or after Sunday 20 November 2011 for up to 1 day or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed between the entrance to 'Coombe Farm' and the entrance to 'Little Orchard'.

There will be no access for through traffic between Folkestone and Etchinghill.

The alternative route is via A20 Ashford Road, B2064 Cheriton High Street, Cheriton Road, A20 Cherry Garden Avenue, A259 Churchill Road, A260 Spitfire Way, Canterbury Road, A2 Dover Road, Bonny Bush Hill, Black Robin Lane, Valley Road, Derrington Hill, Elham Valley Road and Canterbury Road

**BECKET'S LEVEL CROSSING, BROOKLAND (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2011****THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

Because of Network Rail level crossing works, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Becket's Level Crossing, Brookland, from Monday 14 November at 11.00 pm until Tuesday 15 November 2011 at 7.00 am.

Beckett Road (Fairfield Road), Brookland will be closed at the level crossing.

The alternative route is via Beckett Road, A259 Rye Road, Brookland By-pass, Straight Lane, Brenzett Corner, B2080 Rhee Wall, Rhee Wall Road, Station Road and Beckett Road.

**DOWNS ROAD PASSAGE, FOLKESTONE (RESTRICTIONS ON PEDESTRIANS AND CYCLISTS) TEMPORARY ORDER 2011****THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

Because of gas mains replacement works, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting pedestrians and cyclists on Downs Road Passage, Folkestone, on or after 28 November 2011 for up to 6 weeks or until the works have been completed.

The closure is for its entire length, from between house numbers 153 and 153A Downs Road to the junction with Park Farm Road.

The alternative route is via the walkway between house numbers 83 and 85 Downs Road, Moat Farm Road, Downside and Park Farm Road.

**MANOR ROAD, FOLKESTONE (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2011****THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

Because of gas mains replacement works, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Manor Road, Folkestone, on or after 28 November 2011 for up to 4 weeks or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed at the junction with Cheriton Gardens / Shorncliffe Road.

The alternative route is via Ingles Road and A2034 Cheriton Gardens.

**VICARAGE LANE (LICKPOT HILL), ELHAM (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2011****THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

To enable safe access for telephone pole replacement works, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Vicarage Lane (Lickpot Hill), Elham, on or after 28 November 2011 for up to 1 day, between 9.30 am and 3.30 pm.

The road will be closed in the vicinity of The Laynes.

There will be no access for through traffic between the junctions with Hog Green and Standard Hill Top.

The alternative route is via Vicarage Lane, New Road, Canterbury Road, Bereforestall Hill, Oak Hill and Lickpot Hill.

**WARREN ROAD LEVEL CROSSING, FOLKESTONE (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2011****THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

Because of Network Rail level crossing works, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Warren Road Level Crossing, Folkestone, from Sunday 20 November 2011 at 1.00 am until Monday 21 November at 4.00 am.

Warren Road will be closed in the vicinity of the level crossing.

The alternative route is via Southern Way, A260/A2033 Dover Road, Wear Bay Road, Foreland Avenue, Warren Way and Warren Road.

**HIGHWAYS - District of Swale****CHURCH STREET, RODMERSHAM (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2011****THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

Because of urgent drainage works to alleviate flooding, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Church Street, Rodmersham, on or after 14 November 2011 for up to 6 weeks or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed between the church and Church House Farm.

There will be no access for through traffic between the junctions with Pantry Lane and Upper Road.

The alternative route is via A2 Fox Hill, Canterbury Road, St Michael's Road, Crown Quay Lane, Bell Road, Highstead Road, Stockers Hill, Green Lane and Church Street.

Please note that Church Street has been closed since 7 November 2011 as an emergency closure.

**NORTON ROAD, NORTON & BUCKLAND (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2011****THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

Because of telephone pole and cable works, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Norton Road, Norton & Buckland, on or after 28 November 2011 for up to 3 days or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed between the junction Homestall Road and the property shown as Green Acres.

The alternative route is via Tickham Lane, Homestall Road and Norton Road.

The planned work times are between 9.30 am and 3.30 pm, with the road re-opened outside these hours.

**THREAD LANE, HERNHILL (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2011****THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

To enable safe access for telephone pole replacement, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Thread Lane, Herne Hill, on or after 30 November 2011 for up to 3 days or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed to the south of Crockham Lane for a distance of approximately 200 metres southwards.

The alternative route is via Crockham Lane, Church Hill, Staplestreet Road, Dawes Road and Thread Lane.

**HIGHWAYS - District of Thanet****ALBION STREET, BROADSTAIRS (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2011****THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

Because of carriageway repairs to prevent flooding, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Albion Street, Broadstairs, on or after 28 November 2011 for up to 1 day between 9.30 am and 4.00 pm, or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed from the vicinity of number 15 to the vicinity of number 51.

There will be no access for through traffic between the junctions with Thanet Road and Alexandra Road.

The alternative route is via Nelson Place, Crow Hill, Lindenthal Road, Carlton Avenue and High Street.

**HERTFORD STREET & WATERLOO PLACE, RAMSGATE (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2011****THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

Because of carriageway repairs and resurfacing, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Hertford Street & Waterloo Place,

For further information, please contact

Kent County Council Highways and Transportation,

on 08458 247 800 (local rate)

or visit [www.kent.gov.uk/highways](http://www.kent.gov.uk/highways)

Ramsgate as shown below.

**WATERLOO PLACE, RAMSGATE** will be closed on or after 1 December 2011 for up to 1 day.

The road will be closed for its entire length.

The alternative route is via Bellevue Road and Shaftsbury Street.

**HERTFORD STREET, RAMSGATE** will be closed on or after 2 December 2011 for up to 1 day.

The closure is between the junction with Albert Street and the vicinity of number 21.

The alternative route is via West Cliff Road, Royal Road, St Augustine's Road, Paragon, Addington Street and Hertford Place.

The planned closure times are between 9.30 am and 4.00 pm each day.

**KING'S AVENUE, BROADSTAIRS (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2011**

**THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

Because of carriageway repairs and resurfacing, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on King's Avenue, Broadstairs, on or after 29 November 2011 for up to 1 day between 9.30 am and 4.00 pm, or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed in the vicinity of the rear of North Foreland School.

The alternative route is via Lindenthal Road, Crow Hill, Stone Road and Lanthorne Road.

**PARK PLACE, MARGATE (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2011****THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

Because of works to provide gas supplies to new dwellings, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Park Place, Margate, on or after 14 November 2011 for up to 5 days or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed in the vicinity of properties 12 and 17.

The alternative route is via Grosvenor Gardens, Churchfields, High Street and Grosvenor Hill.

The Prohibition of Driving and One-way Traffic Orders in respect of High Street will be suspended, between the junctions with Mill Lane and Grosvenor Hill.

**HIGHWAYS - Borough of Tonbridge & Malling****THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL (BRADBOURNE LANE, DITTON (PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2011****THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

NOTICE is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting the use by through traffic on Bradbourne Lane from A20 London Road to a point 15m south on or after Monday 28th November 2011 for a period of up to 3 weeks or until such works are complete.

The alternative route is via St Peters Road, New Road, A20 London Road.

Southern Gas Networks apologise for any inconvenience caused by these essential works that are necessary for gas mains replacement. Should you require any further information about these works, the contact is John Adsley on 01233 714082.

**THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL (CROUCH LANE, BOROUGH GREEN (PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2011****THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

NOTICE is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting the use by through traffic on Crouch Lane from Long Mill Lane to Maidstone Road on or after Thursday 1st December 2011 for a period of up to 9 days or until such works are complete.

The alternative route is via Maidstone Road, Long Mill Lane.

BT Openreach apologise for any inconvenience caused by these essential works that are necessary for cabling works. Should you require any further information about these works, the contact is Nicola Webb on 0370 0500792.

**HIGHWAYS - Borough of Tunbridge Wells****THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL (CASTLE STREET, SOUTHBOUROUGH (PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2011****THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

NOTICE is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting the use by through traffic on Castle Street Tunbridge Wells in front of 2 castle street on or after Monday 21st November 2011 for a period of up to 2 days or until such works are complete.

The alternative route is via Draper Street or Sheffield Road.

Southern Gas Networks and South East Water apologise for any inconvenience caused by these essential works that are necessary to install service to a new development. Should you require any further information about these works, the contact is Alexandra Earley on 07971 237865.

For further information or comment please call Kent Highway Services on 08458 247 800

**THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL (B2083 COMMON ROAD, SISSINGHURST (30 MPH SPEED LIMIT) ORDER 2011****ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984**

The Kent County Council, acting as the local traffic authority and in exercise of their powers under sections 84 (1), (2) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 (hereinafter called the Act), and of all other enabling powers, after consultation with the chief officer of police in accordance with Paragraph 20 of Part III of Schedule 9 to the said Act of 1984, hereby makes the following Order:

**Revocations and Modifications**

1. The order named in Schedule 1 to this Order is hereby deleted.

**30mph Speed Limit**

1. No person shall drive any motor vehicle at a speed exceeding 30 miles per hour on the lengths of road specified in the Schedule 2 to this Order.
2. The Interpretation Act 1978 shall apply for the interpretation of this Order as it applies for the interpretation of an Act of Parliament.
3. This Order may be cited as "The Kent County Council (B2083 Common Road, Sissinghurst) (30 mph Speed Limit) Order 2011" shall come into operation 14 November 2011

**SCHEDULE 1**

1. The County Council of Kent (Restricted Roads) (Common Road, Sissinghurst, Cranbrook) Order 1973

**SCHEDULE 2**

1. B2083, Common Road, Sissinghurst from its junction with The Street for a distance of 557metres in a generally south-westerly direction.

Full details are contained in the Order which, together with the relevant plans, any Orders amended by the proposals and a statement of reasons for proposing to make the Order may be examined on Mondays to Fridays at the Council Offices of Tunbridge Wells Borough Council, Town Road, Royal Tunbridge Wells, Kent and at Kent County Council, Sessions House, Maidstone during normal opening times.

Any person wishing to question the validity of the Order or any of the provisions contained therein on the grounds that it is not within the powers of the relevant enabling Act or that any requirement of any such enabling Act or of any regulations made thereunder have not been complied with may within 6 weeks from the date on which the Order was made make application to the High Court for this purpose



**THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL**  
(A26 LONDON ROAD, SOUTHBOUROUGH)  
(40 MPH SPEED LIMIT)  
ORDER 2011

**ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984**

The Kent County Council, acting as the local traffic authority and in exercise of their powers under sections 84 (1), (2) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 (hereinafter called the Act), and of all other enabling powers, after consultation with the chief officer of police in accordance with Paragraph 20 of Part III of Schedule 9 to the said Act of 1984, hereby makes the following Order:

1. No person shall drive any motor vehicle at a speed exceeding 40 miles per hour on the lengths of road specified in the Schedule to this Order.
2. The Interpretation Act 1978 shall apply for the interpretation of this Order as it applies for the interpretation of an Act of Parliament.
3. This Order may be cited as "The Kent County Council (A26 London Road, Southborough, Tunbridge Wells) (40 mph Speed Limit) Order 2011" shall come into operation 14 November 2011

**SCHEDULE**

NAME OF ROAD	LENGTH OF ROAD AFFECTED
A26 London Road, Southborough	from the termination/start of the existing 30 mph speed limit at the junction of Quarry Hill Road and London Road which is 130metres south of the centre of the carriageway of the A21 Tonbridge Bypass for a distance of 169m metres in a southerly direction to a point 30metres north of the junction with Vauxhall Lane.

Full details are contained in the Order which, together with the relevant plans, any Orders amended by the proposals and a statement of reasons for proposing to make the Order may be examined on Mondays to Fridays at the Council

Offices of Tunbridge Wells Borough Council, Town Road, Royal Tunbridge Wells, Kent and at Kent County Council, Sessions House, Maidstone during normal opening times.

Any person wishing to question the validity of the Order or any of the provisions contained therein on the grounds that it is not within the powers of the relevant enabling Act or that any requirement of any such enabling Act or of any regulations made thereunder have not been complied with may within 6 weeks from the date on which the Order was made make application to the High Court for this purpose

**THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL**  
(TEA GARDEN LANE, TUNBRIDGE WELLS)  
(PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC)  
TEMPORARY ORDER 2011

**THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984**  
AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC  
(TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

NOTICE is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting the use by through traffic on Tea Garden Lane, outside The Beacon Hotel on or after Monday 28th November 2011 when required for a period of up to 1 day or until such works are complete.

The alternative route is via A264 Langton Road, Major Yorks Road, Hungershall Park, High Rocks Lane, Tea Garden Lane.

Connick Tree Care apologise for any inconvenience caused by these essential works that are necessary for tree felling. Should you require any further information about these works, their contact is Julie Wall on 01737 779191.

Katherine Kerswell  
Group Managing Director  
Invicta House  
County Hall,  
Maidstone  
Kent ME14 1XQ

Dated 13th November 2011

For further information, please contact  
Kent County Council Highways and Transportation,  
on 08458 247 800 (local rate)  
or visit [www.kent.gov.uk/highways](http://www.kent.gov.uk/highways)



## Planning applications



Notice under Article 8 of the Town & Country Planning (General Development Procedure) Order 1995

Notice under Section 67 and/or Section 73 of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990

Notice under Regulation 5 of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Regulations 1990

Notice under Regulation 5A of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) (Amendment) (England) Regulations 2004

The following applications have been submitted for consideration by the council:

CA/11/01654/LB: 24 Palace Street, Canterbury, CT1 2DZ Alterations to listed building to facilitate separate access to residential flat on first-floor. Applicant: Mr and Mrs Dayani Reason: Work to a listed building.

CA/11/01677/FUL: 24 Palace Street, Canterbury, CT1 2DZ Erection of conservatory to rear of building. Applicant: Mr and Mrs Dayani Reason: Conservation area.

CA/11/01678/LB: 24 Palace Street, Canterbury, CT1 2DZ Erection of conservatory to rear of building. Applicant: Mr and Mrs Dayani Reason: Work to a listed building.

CA/11/01698/ADV: 35 St George's Street, Canterbury, CT1 2LE Externally illuminated fascia sign. Applicant: Catch Fish Reason: Conservation area.

CA/11/01739/FUL: Kent County Cricket Club, St Lawrence Ground, Old Dover Road, Canterbury, CT1 3NZ Installation of six antenna attached to floodlight tower No 4 (between the Lesly Ames stand and Colin Cowdrey stand) and associated equipment cabinets. Applicant: Kent County Cricket Club Reason: Conservation area.

CA/11/01748/FUL: 149D Island Wall, Whitstable, CT5 1EE Replacement doors, windows, provision of cladding to first-floor, alterations to balcony and installation of solar panels on roof slope. Applicant: Mr Schoon Reason: Conservation area.

CA/11/01750/FUL: Elizabeth Court, Queen Street, Herne Bay, CT6 5BT Installation of three additional antenna attached to existing antenna mountings and ancillary equipment to roof of flats. Applicant: Vodafone Ltd and Telefonica UK Ltd Reason: Conservation area.

CA/11/01770/FUL: 173 Margate Road, Herne, CT6 7AB Addition of dormer windows to front and rear of dwelling. Applicant: Mr and Mrs Dixon Reason: Conservation area.

CA/11/01779/FUL: 95 Central Parade, Herne Bay, CT6 5JJ Change of use from bed and breakfast (Use Class C1) to residential (Use Class C3) and subdivision of first and second floors into two self-contained flats. Applicant: Mr K Tsang Reason: Conservation area.

CA/11/01780/FUL: 34 Whitstable Road, Blean, CT2 9EB Erection of conservatory to front elevation of dwelling. Applicant: Dr A Staehler Reason: Conservation area.

CA/11/01785/LB: 63 Island Wall, Whitstable, CT5 1EL Demolition of store and erection of single-storey rear extension. Applicant: Mr C Stanley Reason: Work to a listed building.

CA/11/01786/FUL: 51 King Street, Canterbury, CT1 2AR Change of use from public house (Use Class A4) to educational use (Use Class D1). Applicant: The King's School Reason: Conservation area.

CA/11/01787/LB: 51 King Street, Canterbury, CT1 2AR Internal and external alterations associated with change of use of premises to education use. Applicant: The King's School Reason: Work to a listed building.

CA/11/01789/LB: Crossways, Field Way, Sturry, CT2 0BH Repositioning of entrance gates. Applicant: Mr and Mrs Andrews Reason: Setting of listed building in conservation area.

CA/11/01790/FUL: Crossways, Field Way, Sturry, CT2 0BH Repositioning of entrance gates and replacement of fence. Applicant: Mr and Mrs Andrews Reason: Conservation area.

CA/11/01833/TAM: Station Road West, Canterbury, CT2 8AN Resite one combined payphone/ATM kiosk. Applicant: BT Reason: Conservation area.

Any representations should be sent in writing to the Head of Planning and Regeneration, Canterbury City Council, Military Road, Canterbury CT1 1YW or e-mailed to [development.control@canterbury.gov.uk](mailto:development.control@canterbury.gov.uk) to arrive on or before Monday 5 December 2011.

The weekly list of applications can be viewed on our website at: [www.canterbury.gov.uk/dc](http://www.canterbury.gov.uk/dc)

Ian Brown, Head of Planning and Regeneration

Friday 11 November 2011

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## BIRTHS, MARRIAGES AND DEATHS

Including family announcements in partnership with the Kent registration service

To register Births, Marriages and Deaths contact the Kent registration service on 0845 824 7400

For advertising announcement enquiries telephone Kent on Sunday 01303 817150

### BIRTHS

#### BATES

Emma and Billy are delighted to announce the birth of their baby son Fraser James Bates who was born on 13th October 2011. Proud big brother is Owen.

#### BUTLER

Richard and Tracey celebrate the birth of their son Ellis Michael Butler who was born on 31st October 2011. Grandson to Michael, Jackie, Sue and Jervis.

#### CHAMPION

Faith born on 10th October 2011 weighing 8lb 3oz. Daughter to Daniel and Jessie Champion of Sidcup.

**EVESON**  
Jack William born on 30th September 2011 weighing 8lb 4oz. Son to David Eveson and Emma Lewer in Sidcup.

**HOLLAND**  
James Thomas Sean born on 18th April 2011 weighing 8lb 4oz Son to Kieran and Amanda Holland - a Treasure on their wedding day.

#### DEATHS

**COWELL**  
Mary Elizabeth of Minster, Thanet passed away peacefully on 2nd November 2011. Funeral was held on Thursday 10th November. A loved

one is not gone, until they are forgotten. And to live in the hearts of those left behind is to live forever.

**RICHARDS**  
William Henry Richards formerly Hogben died suddenly on 1st November 2011. In loving memory, by his wife, children and grandchildren. Always in our hearts and never forgotten.

**SHARPE**  
Elena Sharpe Daughter in law of Miriam Sharpe ex Sheriff of Canterbury passed away 24th October 2011, fell asleep peacefully.

**Town and Country Planning Acts**

The Council is required to give notice of the following applications

**11/03345/FUL** Gate House Farm Fairmans Lane, Brenchley  
- Stables for mixed domestic and commercial use (PROW)

**11/03290/FUL** Second Floor Flat 16 Broadwater Down, Broadwater  
- Two rooflights in attic room (CA)

**11/03342/FUL** Garages & Land Rear Of 21 - 23 Eridge Road, Broadwater  
- Demolition of existing garages and construction of two detached houses (CA)

**11/03190/FUL** Co-operative High Street, Cranbrook And Sissinghurst  
- Retrospective: Change of use of part of internal area from A1 retail to A2 commercial (CA)

**11/03326/LBC** 6 Waterloo Place Waterloo Road, Cranbrook And Sissinghurst  
- Listed Building Consent - Alterations to first floor bathroom layout and infill doorway between bedrooms (LB)

**11/03332/CAC** Cinema Development Site Mount Pleasant Road, Culverden  
- Conservation Area Consent: Demolition of former ABC Cinema, 10-15 Ritz Buildings, Church Road, 41-67 Mount Pleasant Road, Clancarrie House and Hill House, Clancarrie Road (CA)

**11/03275/HOUSE** The Coach House The Street, Frittenden  
- Demolition of garage and lower two storey section of existing house and replace with a two storey extension and detached garage (CA)

**11/02457/HOUSE** Whites Bedgebury Road, Goudhurst  
- Creation of a wildlife pond in rear garden (CA) (LB)

**11/03265/HOUSE** Meadow View Jarvis Lane, Goudhurst  
- Installation of bundled oil tank (LB)

**11/03300/HOUSE** Finchcocks Oast Finchcocks Farm, Goudhurst  
- Tennis court (LB)

**11/03314/FUL** The Coach House Little Bewl Bridge Farm, Goudhurst  
- Conversion of redundant barn to residential dwelling; conversion of stable to annexe/holiday let; construction of detached garage adjacent to stable with solar panels, to accommodate bat roost in roof void; change of use of agricultural land to residential; installation of sewage treatment plant (amended scheme TW/07/03704 refers) (LB)

**11/03318/LBC** The Coach House Little Bewl Bridge Farm, Goudhurst  
- Listed Building Consent: Conversion of redundant barn to residential dwelling; conversion of stable to annexe/holiday let; construction of detached garage adjacent to stable with solar panels, to accommodate bat roost in roof void; change of use of agricultural land to residential; installation of sewage treatment plant (amended scheme TW/07/03704 refers) (LB)

**11/03346/FUL** Shearfold Oast Church Road, Goudhurst  
- Demolition of farm buildings and erection of four bed detached dwelling. Oast house to be retained as residential annexe (LB)

**11/03231/HOUSE** Little Pix Hall High Street, Hawkhurst  
- Conversion of existing outbuildings to residential annex (LB)

**11/03233/LBC** Little Pix Hall High Street, Hawkhurst  
- Listed Building Consent: Conversion of existing outbuildings to residential annex (LB)

**11/03270/FULMJ** Tesco Rye Road, Hawkhurst  
- Variation of Condition 17 of TW/10/02328 to lower height of acoustic fence to 2m (MAJOR)

**11/03323/LBC** Birchfield Rye Road, Hawkhurst  
- Listed Building Consent: Installation of a freestanding woodburning stove with associated twin wall flue extending through existing roof (LB)

**11/03281/LBC** Coggers Farm House The Broadway, Lamberhurst  
- Listed Building Consent: Removal of modern white paint on external brickwork on ground floor. Re-point brickwork as necessary with lime mortar. Replace bricks like for like if required (LB)

**11/03317/LBC** Barn Old Swan Farm, Lamberhurst  
- Listed Building Consent - Rebuilt 6 metres of external wall; Changed proposed vertical weatherboard to horizontal (LB)

**11/03050/FUL** 65 Frank Road Royal Tunbridge Wells, Pantiles & St Marks  
- Single storey extension and detached garden store (CA)

**11/03177/HOUSE** 39 Calverley Street Royal Tunbridge Wells, Park  
- Single storey rear extension (CA)

**11/03297/HOUSE** Maytrees Pembury Road, Park  
- Retrospective: Conservatory to side elevation (CA)

**11/03315/LBC** Tunbridge Wells Adult Education Centre Monson Road, Park  
- Listed building consent - 4 no. internal lift lobbies and installation of lift (LB)

**11/03321/FUL** Calverley Grounds Mount Pleasant Avenue, Park  
- Temporary change of use to site 10 christmas market cabins on right and left pathways adjacent to cafe and associated equipment (CA)

**11/03327/LBC** Tunbridge Wells Library Mount Pleasant Road, Park  
- Listed building consent - external lift shaft and internal alterations (LB)

**11/03205/FUL** Risden Farm Risden Lane, Sandhurst  
- Retrospective: Change of use of buildings and yard from agriculture to mixed agriculture and workshop and storage (LB)

**11/03308/HOUSE** Calvert Cottage 7 Modest Corner, Southborough North  
- Retrospective - Treehouse in rear garden (CA)

(DEVPLN) Departure from the Development Plan (PROW) Affecting A Public Right of Way (CA) Affecting a Conservation Area (LB) Affecting a Listed Building (MAJOR) Major Applications (MAST) Mast Applications (EIA) Applications Accompanied by an EIA Statement.

You may view these applications on our website ([www.tunbridgewells.gov.uk](http://www.tunbridgewells.gov.uk)), at The Old Fire Station, Stoney Street, Cranbrook or at Gateway, 8 Grosvenor Road, Tunbridge Wells. We accept comments online, by email to [planningcomments@tunbridgewells.gov.uk](mailto:planningcomments@tunbridgewells.gov.uk) or in writing to the address below. Comments should be made within 21 days from the date of this notice, although we may accept them after this date.

You should quote the reference and be aware that we make all comments available for inspection, placing them on the file and publishing them on the internet. We do not publish signatures, telephone numbers or email addresses on the internet.

Jim Kehoe  
Head of Planning Services  
Town Hall Royal Tunbridge Wells TN1 1RS  
Dated: 12 November 2011



## THE MAIDSTONE BOROUGH COUNCIL Town and Country Planning Act Notice of Applications

**MA/11/0659/S** - MARDEN WORKING MENS CLUB, ALBION ROAD, MARDEN, TONBRIDGE, KENT, TN12 9DT - An application for listed building consent for the installation of an advertisement to the west elevation. **Reason: 3**

**MA/11/1061/S** - AMBULANCE STATION, LOOSE ROAD, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME19 9QB - Outline application for the erection of 14(no) dwellings with access and layout to be considered at this stage and appearance, landscaping and scale reserved for future consideration. **Reason: 6**

**MA/11/1514/S** - EXHURST MANOR, FRITTENDEN ROAD, STAPLEHURST, TONBRIDGE, KENT, TN12 0DL - An application for listed building consent for external alterations being the replacement of 2no. existing windows with a door and French doors and internal alterations to the arrangement of the room layout comprising the removal of internal walls and a chimney breast and the introduction of a new 'feature surround' and internal partitions. **Reason: 3**

**MA/11/1675/S** - JOHNSONS FRESH PRODUCTS LTD, BIDDENDEN ROAD, HEADCORN, ASHFORD, KENT, TN27 9LW - Erection of a canopy of existing loading docks. **Reason: 1, 6**

**MA/11/1736/S** - TANNER FARM CARAVAN PARK, GOUDHURST ROAD, MARDEN, TONBRIDGE, KENT, TN12 9ND - Erection of mixed use agricultural building, creation of new vehicle access and associated works. **Reason: 1**

**MA/11/1741/S** - TEASAUER STABLES, BOCKINGFORD LANE, TOVIL, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME15 6DP - Retrospective application for the construction of an approximately 55m long and 2.5m wide solid hardsurface trackway with proposed asphalt surface coloured green. **Reason: 2**

**MA/11/1750/S** - 2, CROW PLAIN COTTAGES, BENOVER ROAD, YALDING, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME18 6AZ - An application for listed building consent for the erection of a two storey side/rear extension and internal alterations. (Resubmission of MA/11/0313). **Reason: 3**

**MA/11/1751/S** - 2, CROW PLAIN COTTAGES, BENOVER ROAD, YALDING, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME18 6AZ - Erection of a two storey side/rear extension and internal alterations. (Resubmission of MA/11/0313). **Reason: 1**

**MA/11/1756/N** - 18, WEEK STREET, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME14 1RW - Listed building consent for the installation of galvanized trunking containing optical fibre cables to wall bounding rear car park to Wyke Manor Road into the rear of the building with a hole to be drilled into the wall at first floor level with associated internal works. **Reason: 3**

**MA/11/1761/N** - 36, UNION STREET, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME14 1ED - Erection of front porch. **Reason: 1, 2**

**MA/11/1774/S** - FORMER HORTICULTURAL UNIT HADL, OAKWOOD PARK, TONBRIDGE ROAD, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME16 8AW - Application for the approval of reserved matters of layout, scale, appearance and landscaping pursuant to outline planning permission MA/10/0485 comprising the erection of 51 houses and apartments in a mix of 2, 3, & 4 bedroom dwellings together with associated car parking, access and landscaping. **Reason: 6**

**MA/11/1784/S** - CARING WOOD, CARING LANE, LEEDS, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME17 1TJ - Erection of 1(no) dwelling with associated estate manager's cottage, new barn with ragstone wall accommodating photovoltaic cells, new access tracks, dry store, glasshouse, parking areas and landscaping. **Reason: 1, 6, 7, 9**

**MA/11/1788/S** - 2, ELVEYS COTTAGES, HIGH STREET, YALDING, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME18 6HY - Front extension to attached garage and conversion to habitable room. **Reason: 1, 2**

**MA/11/1806/S** - WIERTON PLACE, WIERTON ROAD, BOUGHTON MONCHESSEA, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME17 4JW - Listed building consent for a permanent Memorial Plaque. **Reason: 3**

**MA/11/1824/N** - LAND AT HOME FARM OAST, BOUGHTON ROAD, SANDWAY, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME17 2BE - Removal of existing 15m high replica telegraph pole and its replacement with a new 20m high replica telegraph pole supporting 3no. 02 antennas and 3no. Vodaphone antennas, an additional radio equipment cabinet and development ancillary thereto. **Reason: 1**

### Reasons for advertisement key:

- 1- Applications affects the setting of a Listed Building.
- 2- Application affects the setting of a Conservation Area.
- 3- Application is for Listed Building Consent.
- 4- Application is Major Development.
- 5- Application affects a Public Right of Way.
- 6- Application does not accord with the Local Plan.

Copies of applications listed may be seen at Maidstone Gateway, Maidstone during office hours (Monday to Wednesday 8.30am to 5.30pm, Thursday 8.30am to 7pm, Friday 8.30am to 5.30pm and Saturday 9am to 1pm). Any representations should be made in writing to me by no later than **27th November 2011**, quoting the application number.

**Rob Jarman**, Head of Development Management, Maidstone Borough Council, Maidstone House, King Street, Maidstone, Kent ME15 6JQ. **Dated:** 13th November 2011



## NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR PLANNING PERMISSION

### PLANNING (LISTED BUILDINGS AND CONSERVATION AREAS) ACT 1990

**KCC/TW/0458/2011** - Proposed development at  
Rammell House, Cranbrook School, The Hill,  
Cranbrook, Kent, TN17 3AF.

The Governors of Cranbrook School is applying to the Kent County Council for planning permission for the proposed removal of existing window on first floor and alter opening to accommodate an external door for alternative means of escape including a freestanding metal staircase painted black. The proposed development is within the Cranbrook Conservation Area and is likely to affect its character and/or appearance, and also affects the setting of a listed building.

You may view this application at Tunbridge Wells Borough Council, 8 Grosvenor Road, Tunbridge Wells, Kent, TN1 2AB.

Alternatively, details of all applications can be viewed on Kent County Council's website at [www.kent.gov.uk/viewapplications](http://www.kent.gov.uk/viewapplications) or at our offices in Maidstone at the address below during all reasonable office hours.

We accept comments online via our website, by email to [planning.applications@kent.gov.uk](mailto:planning.applications@kent.gov.uk) or in writing to Planning Applications Group, Kent County Council, First Floor, Invicta House, County Hall, Maidstone, Kent ME14 1XX within 21 days from the date of this notice. Please quote the application reference number and note that comments may be drawn to the attention of Council Members, the applicant and other interested persons.

**Sharon Thompson**  
Head of Planning  
Applications Group  
Kent County Council  
**Dated:** 13 November 2011



## LEGAL AND PUBLIC NOTICES

### The Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors

**Mr Mark Jones, Kent, TN13**  
Disciplinary Hearing  
05 October 2011

At a Disciplinary Panel on 05 October 2011 the Panel found Mr Jones was liable for Disciplinary action under Bye-law B5.2.2 and found an additional charge proved, based on his admissions. Contrary to Bye Law 5.2.1(d)(i). The panel expelled Mr Jones from membership and ordered costs. Full details can be found on the website [www.rics.org](http://www.rics.org).

## PREMISES/ GOODS LICENCES

### Goods Vehicle Operator's Licence

John Dillon Plant Hire Limited of 1A High Street, Lenham, Maidstone, Kent, ME17 2QD is applying for licence to use Unit 0, Detling Aerodrome Estate, Detling, Maidstone, Kent, ME14 3HU as an operating centre for 7 goods vehicles and 0 trailers.

Owners or occupiers of land (including buildings) near the operating centre(s) who believe that their use or enjoyment of that land would be affected, should make written representations to the Traffic Commissioner at South Easter and Metropolitan Traffic Area, Hillcrest House, 386 Harehills Lane, Leeds, LS9 6NF stating their reasons, within 21 days of this notice. Representors must at the same time send a copy of their representations to the applicant at the address given at the top of this notice. A Guide to making representations is available from the Traffic Commissioner's Office.

### Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (England) Order 2010 Notice under article 11 of Application for planning Permission

Proposed Development at: London House, 5-11 London Road, Maidstone, Kent, ME16 8HR

Take notice that application is being made by:

Organisation: Retail Estates Limited

Applicant: Mr Jason P

Planning Application Reference: MA/11/1565

Description of proposed Development: Change of use and extension (through infilling of existing rear projection at ground floor level) from office (Class B1 use) to provide a 100 bedroom (Whitbread Premier Inn) hotel (Class C1 use) to include alterations to the existing elevations, alterations to existing vehicular access and car parking, provision of DDA compliant pedestrian access, reconfiguration of existing loading bay and provision of new landscaping. Local Planning Authority to whom the application is being submitted:

Maidstone Borough Council

Mr Steve Clarke

Principal Planning Officer

Development Management

Maidstone Borough Council

Maidstone House, King Street, Maidstone, Kent, ME15 6JQ

Any Owner of the land or tenant who wishes to make representations about this application, should write to the council within 21 days of the date of this notice.

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## PROW - BOROUGH OF ASHFORD

### NOTICE OF CONFIRMATION OF PUBLIC PATH ORDER

HIGHWAYS ACT 1980

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL

(PUBLIC FOOTPATH AE515 (PART) BILSINGTON)

PUBLIC PATH DIVERSION AND DEFINITIVE MAP AND STATEMENT MODIFICATION ORDER 2011

On 13 October 2011 Kent County Council confirmed the above Order under Section 119 of the Highways Act 1980.

The effect of the Order as confirmed is to divert the entire width of that length of public footpath numbered AE515 which commences at NGR TR 0199 3672 (Point A) on the Order Plan, and continues in a north north-easterly direction for 62 metres to NGR TR 0203 3677 (Point B). Between points A-B on the Order Plan; and will add a new length of public footpath numbered AE515 with a width of 2.0 metres which commences at NGR TR 0199 3672 (Point A) on the Order Plan, and continues in a northerly direction for approximately 74 metres to NGR TR 0201 3679 (point C). Between points A-C on the Order Plan.

All directions general, all distances approximate.

A copy of the Order and the Map have been placed and may be seen free of charge at the Ashford Borough Council, Civic Centre, Tannery Lane, Ashford, TN23 1PL or the Kent County Council, Environment & Waste at Invicta House, County Hall, Maidstone ME14 1XX during office hours. Copies of the Order and Map may be purchased there.

The Order comes into force on 14 November 2011, but if a person aggrieved by the Order wants to question its validity, or that of any provision contained in it, on the ground that it is not within the powers of the Highways Act 1980, as amended, or on the ground that any requirement of the Act, as amended, or of any regulation made under the Act which has not been complied with in relation to the Order, he or she may under Paragraph 2 of Schedule 2 to the Act as applied by Paragraph 5 of Schedule 6 to the Act, within 6 weeks from the 13 November 2011, make an application to the High Court.

### NOTICE OF THE INTENTION TO MAKE AN ORDER TO TEMPORARILY CLOSE PUBLIC FOOTPATH AW305 IN THE PARISH OF KINGSNORTH

(PUBLIC FOOTPATH AW305)

(PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2011

ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984, SECTION 14(1), AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Kent County Council intends to temporarily close Public Footpath AW305, between the car park at Kingsnorth Pavilion (NGR TR 005 393) and the junction with Public Footpath AW306, near Bridle Way Lane (NGR TR 005 395) from 25th November 2011.

The path will be closed for a maximum of six months, although it is expected that it will reopen before 1st March 2011.

The path is to be closed to enable the completion of surface improvements and there is a likelihood of danger to users.

The alternative route is via the recreation ground between the Pavilion and Bridle Way Lane and will be signed for the duration of the closure.

For detailed enquiries please contact Colin Finch

## PROW - BOROUGH OF MAIDSTONE

### NOTICE OF CONFIRMATION OF PUBLIC PATH ORDER

HIGHWAYS ACT 1980

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL

(PUBLIC FOOTPATH KB28 (PART) MAIDSTONE)

PUBLIC PATH DIVERSION AND DEFINITIVE MAP AND STATEMENT MODIFICATION ORDER 2011

On 13 October 2011 Kent County Council confirmed the above Order under Section 119 of the Highways Act 1980.

The effect of the Order as confirmed is to divert the entire width of that length of public footpath numbered KB28 which commences at NGR TQ 7843 5250 (Point A) on the Order Plan, and runs in a west north-westerly direction for 38 metres to NGR TQ 7840 5251 (Point B), the route turns in a south-westerly direction for 74 metres to NGR TQ 7836 5245 (Point C). Between points A-B on the Order Plan; and will add a new length of public footpath numbered KB28 with a width of 2.0 metres which commences at NGR TQ 7843 5250 (Point A) on the Order Plan, and runs in a southerly direction for 109 metres to NGR TQ 7845 5240 (Point D). Between points A-D on the Order Plan.

All directions general, all distances approximate.

A copy of the Order and the Map have been placed and may be seen free of charge at the Maidstone Borough Council, Maidstone House, King Street, Maidstone, Kent, ME15 6JQ or the Kent County Council, Environment & Waste at Invicta House, County Hall, Maidstone ME14 1XX during office hours. Copies of the Order and Map may be purchased there.

The Order comes into force on 14 November 2011, but if a person aggrieved by the Order wants to question its validity, or that of any provision contained in it, on the ground that it is not within the powers of the Highways Act 1980, as amended, or on the ground that any requirement of the Act, as amended, or of any regulation made under the Act which has not been complied with in relation to the Order, he or she may under Paragraph 2 of Schedule 2 to the Act as applied by Paragraph 5 of Schedule 6 to the Act, within 6 weeks from the 13 November 2011, make an application to the High Court.

## VILLAGE GREENS - DISTRICT OF SHEPWAY

### KENT COUNTY COUNCIL

COMMONS ACT 2006 - SECTION 15(1)

### NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR THE REGISTRATION OF LAND AS A VILLAGE GREEN

Application has been made to the Registration Authority, Kent County Council, by Shepway Environment and Community network under section 15(1) of the Commons Act 2006 and in accordance with the Commons Registration (England) Regulations 2008. The application seeks the inclusion in the Register of Town and Village Greens of the land described in the Schedule below which is claimed to have qualified for registration as a Town or Village Green by virtue of the use of the land for the purposes of lawful sports and pastimes 'as of right' and without challenge by the landowner for a period of over 20 years.

If the Registration Authority is satisfied that the land described below qualifies for registration as a Town or Village Green, it will so register the land.

The application, which includes a plan of the land proposed for registration, may be inspected at the offices of Kent County Council at the address below. Please contact the Commons Registration Team on 01622 221628 to make an appointment prior to visiting to ensure that a member of the team is available to assist you.

Any person wishing to make representations regarding the application should send a written statement of the facts upon which the representation is based to Miss. Melanie McNeir at Kent County Council, either by post at the address below or by email to commons.villagegreens@kent.gov.uk, so as to arrive no later than Friday 23rd December 2011. Please quote reference VAG633. Representations must include the name and postal address of the person making them and the nature of their interest (if any) in the land affected by the application. They must also be signed by the person making them and state the grounds on which they are made.

Please note that any representations that are to be taken into account by the Registration Authority in reaching a decision on the application cannot be treated confidential and may come into the public domain during the processing of the application. Copies of any objections or representations received will be forwarded to the applicant for comment and may be disclosed to other interested parties, including the Planning Inspectorate where the case is referred to it for determination.

### Description of the land claimed to have qualified for registration as a Village Green

An area of land of approximately 12 acres (5 hectares) in size, known locally as the former Lympne airfield, situated to the north of Aldington Road and occupying an area between the Lympne Industrial Park and the residential developments to the west of Folkestone Road in the parish of Lympne.

## PROW - BOROUGH OF SWALE

### NOTICE OF CONFIRMATION OF PUBLIC PATH ORDERS

HIGHWAYS ACT 1980

### THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL

- i) (PUBLIC FOOTPATH ZS38 (PART), LEYSDOWN) PUBLIC PATH DIVERSION AND DEFINITIVE MAP AND STATEMENT MODIFICATION ORDER 2011
- ii) (PUBLIC FOOTPATH ZS37 (PART), LEYSDOWN) PUBLIC PATH EXTINGUISHMENT AND DEFINITIVE MAP AND STATEMENT MODIFICATION ORDER 2011
- iii) (PUBLIC FOOTPATH ZS37 (PART), LEYSDOWN) PUBLIC PATH CREATION AND DEFINITIVE MAP AND STATEMENT MODIFICATION ORDER 2011
- iv) (PUBLIC BRIDLEWAY ZS45 (PARTS), LEYSDOWN) PUBLIC PATH DIVERSION AND DEFINITIVE MAP AND STATEMENT MODIFICATION ORDER 2011

On 4th November 2011 the Kent County Council confirmed the above Orders under sections 118, 119 and 26 of the Highways Act 1980.

The effect of the Orders as confirmed is to:

- i) divert the entire width of that length of **Public Footpath ZS38** which commences at the unaffected part of Public Footpath ZS38, NGR TR0392 6963 (Point A) and passes for 332 metres in a north north-easterly direction to a connection with Public Footpath ZS51 at NGR TR0938 6996, (Point C).
- ii) extinguish the entire width of that length of **Public Footpath ZS37** which commences at a point 16 metres to the south of Paradise Farmhouse at NGR TR0230 7032 (Point A) and passes for 138 metres in a south south westerly direction to its connection with the unaffected length of Public Footpath ZS37 at NGR TR0227 7019 (Point B).
- iii) divert the entire width of that length of **Public Bridleway ZS45** which commences at NGR TR0423 6934 (Point A) and passes for 580 metres in a south south westerly direction to the unaffected part of Public Bridleway ZS45 at NGR TR0395 6891, (Point B).
- b) divert the entire width of that length of **Public Bridleway ZS45** which commences at the unaffected part of Public Bridleway ZS45 at NGR TR0370 6876, (Point C) and passes in a south south westerly direction for 2040 metres to its connection point with Public Bridleway ZS44A at NGR TR0250 6738, (Point E). The new length of way will have a width of 3 metres.

All directions general, all distances approximate. Copies of the Orders and Maps have been placed and may be seen free of charge at the offices of Swale Borough Council, Swale House, East Street, Sittingbourne, Kent, ME10 3HT or at the Countryside Access Service at Invicta House, County Hall, Maidstone, Kent, ME14 1XX, during office hours. Copies of the Orders and Maps may be purchased there.

The Orders came into force on 4th November 2011 except for that of ZS38 which comes into force on 2nd December, but if a person aggrieved by the Orders wants to question the validity, or that of any provision contained in it, on the ground that it is not within the powers of the Highways Act 1980, as amended, or on the ground that any requirement of the Act, as amended, or of any regulation made under the Act which has not been complied with in relation to the Order, he or she may under Paragraph 2 of Schedule 2 to the Act as applied by Paragraph 5 of Schedule 6 to the Act, within 6 weeks from the 13th November 2011, make an application to the High Court.

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- iii) divert the entire width of that length of **Public Bridleway ZS45** which commences at NGR TR0423 6934 (Point A) and passes for 580 metres in a south south westerly direction to the unaffected part of Public Bridleway ZS45 at NGR TR0395 6891, (Point B).
- b) divert the entire width of that length of **Public Bridleway ZS45** which commences at the unaffected part of Public Bridleway ZS45 at NGR TR0370 6876, (Point C) and passes in a south south westerly direction for 2040 metres to its connection point with Public Bridleway ZS44A at NGR TR0250 6738, (Point E). The new length of way will have a width of 3 metres.

All directions general, all distances approximate. Copies of the Orders and Maps have been placed and may be seen free of charge at the offices of Swale Borough Council, Swale House, East Street, Sittingbourne, Kent, ME10 3HT or at the Countryside Access Service at Invicta House, County Hall, Maidstone, Kent, ME14 1XX, during office hours. Copies of the Orders and Maps may be purchased there.

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### Countryside Access Service

Kent County Council

Invicta House

County Hall

Maidstone

Kent

ME14 1XX

Dated: 13th November 2011

*This document is available in alternative formats and can be explained in a range of languages.*

### For further information, please contact

Kent Countryside Access Service,

on 0845 345 0210 (Mon-Fri 8am-8pm)

or visit [www.kent.gov.uk/countrysideaccess](http://www.kent.gov.uk/countrysideaccess)



## MARRIAGE LICENCES

### KENT COUNTY COUNCIL

THE MARRIAGE ACT 1949 AND

CIVIL PARTNERSHIP ACT 2004

### APPROVED PREMISES FOR

CIVIL MARRIAGES & CIVIL PARTNERSHIPS

An application has been made to Kent County Council to grant an approval for the following premises to act as a venue for the solemnisation of civil marriages and civil partnerships:-

Name of Premises: Smallhythe Place, Smallhythe Road, Tenterden

Applicant: Katie Shaw

The application and plan of the premises may be inspected at the address below during normal office hours. Any person may give notice in writing of an objection to the grant of an approval, together with the reasons, within 21 days from the date of this newspaper. Objections should be sent to the address below.

Giles Adey

Head of Registration  
Invicta House,  
Maidstone, ME14 1XX



### KENT COUNTY COUNCIL

THE MARRIAGE ACT 1949 AND

CIVIL PARTNERSHIP ACT 2004

### APPROVED PREMISES FOR

CIVIL MARRIAGES & CIVIL PARTNERSHIPS

A building certified for worship named One with Grace Centre, Part A, Hollands Farm, Hawley Road, Hawley, Dartford in the registration district of Kent, in the Non-Metropolitan County of Kent, was on 24 May 2011 registered for solemnising marriages therein pursuant to section 41 of the Marriage Act 1949 as amended by Section 1 (1) of the Marriage Acts Amendment Act, 1958. In lieu of One with Grace Centre, 189 Wilmington Road, Wilmington, Dartford now disused and the registration cancelled thereof.

Superintendent Registrar

20 June 2011

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Landlord puts quality first as he transforms a 'dead duck'

**SEE PAGE 45**



**ON THE ROAD**

Charley Boorman shares his travels in one-off visit

**SEE PAGE 48**

# Kent Weekend

## Check mate

**Dave Gorman shares his thoughts with the help of one or two (well, 850) slides**

**SEE PAGE 43**



**PLUS:** Meet animal park's latest delightful arrival - **attractions p46** Has your home retained its value through these tough times? - **property p50** Mazda's newest offering has had much more than a facelift - **driving p55**



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with heated pool, gym, launderette  
and bar/restaurant.

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# How many slides can you take in one show?

**H**OW many times have we all sat through a Powerpoint presentation, twiddling our thumbs and looking for the nearest exit?

Well, now inventive comedian Dave Gorman is looking to turn the tables with his aptly-named new stand-up tour, Dave Gorman's Powerpoint Presentation.

The 40-year-old is well known for creating original shows like his box-office smash Googlewhack Adventure and the televised Are You Dave Gorman? in which he took a wager against his friend to find other people sharing his name.

But surely a Powerpoint presentation is going too far?

Gorman is keen to put us right: "It is not about any one thing and it is not about Powerpoint. It actually is a Powerpoint presentation.

"It is not a parody of a business presentation – a lot of people assume it is going to be that. I have never seen a business presentation. I have never sat through one.

"One of the things I am told is if you are building a Powerpoint presentation for your workplace, you must never put more than 30 slides in it. More than 30 slides is death by Powerpoint presentation.

"In my show I use 850, so it is very different, very fast-paced – I'm throwing a lot of information at you. All of it is there for a reason – no one needs to do any homework or take any notes, it is kind of like a double act where me and the screen are talking at the same time."

Gorman's gig at the Tunbridge Wells Assembly Hall Theatre on Wednesday is part of a tour that started with 28 sold-out shows at this year's Edinburgh Fringe Comedy Festival.

His pedigree as a stand-up stretches across the globe and includes a three-

month run on Broadway in New York, shows at the Sydney Opera House and being awarded the HBO One Man Show Award in the US in 2001 and 2004.

And in the UK, Gorman is also a best-seller with his books, which coincide with each of his live shows. His Googlewhack adventure topped the Sunday Times non-fiction list in 2004.

But his new show is to remain live – and live only.

He said: "The last time I toured, I did the old one-man-and-a-mic-style stand-up and in the final third of the show I would reveal the screen and add a Powerpoint

6699

**It is a kind of double act where me and the screen are talking at the same time**

DAVE GORMAN, ON HIS LATEST SHOW

thing at the end. Every time I did this, it would get this massive cheer and it was like having pudding at the end of a meal.

"And every time I thought of new material, I knew how I would make it better using a visual element or analysis through Powerpoint. I couldn't stop my head going that way.

"This could never be on TV or DVD – we could never record it for legal reasons. If you are going to forensically analyse adverts and magazine articles, you can get away with it live, but if you release it, the people who made them will sue you."

Gorman has had his fingers in many comedy pies, winning two BAFTA Awards as a writer on The Mrs Merton Show (BBC

One), as well as making appearances on The Late Show With David Letterman (CBS), Absolutely Fabulous (BBC One), Never Mind The Buzzcocks (BBC Two) and acting in Steve Coogan's film 24 Hour Party People.

But the funnyman is always keen to keep the subjects of his new shows a secret for future audiences.

He said: "I don't want to ruin anything. If you saw a comedian last night and told me that he did a show about crocodiles and kettles, I don't know if I would want to see a show about that – knowing what the topics are doesn't make it funny.

"But I will give you a flavour. For example, if you want to talk about an advert and point out why it doesn't make sense, you can talk about an advert that we all already know like the Go Compare one, but everyone knows that is annoying.

"So if I want to show you an advert where I have noticed something but you may not have, I can show you it in five-second clips, stop, analyse it and reveal something. It's very useful."

Gorman, who may take his new show overseas, is also occupying a popular slot on Absolute Radio, something he treasures.

He said: "I love doing it. It's a very interactive show – there is enjoyable conversation and the childish thrill of being a teenager, taking our friends to our bedroom and listening to our music.

"I like it so much that I am doing a tour show in Dublin next Saturday night and flying back so I can get in and do the radio show on the Sunday morning!"

**■ Dave Gorman's Powerpoint Presentation plays at the Assembly Hall Theatre in Tunbridge Wells at 8pm on Wednesday, November 16. Phone 01892 530613 or visit [www.assemblyhalltheatre.co.uk](http://www.assemblyhalltheatre.co.uk) for tickets.**



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## Cotswolds Snowdrops & Windsor

Coach Break  
1 night half board  
Quote CS2-KOS  
£99pp

18 to 19 February, 2012

Few flowers are more welcome than snowdrops, since their appearance is the first sign that winter is melting into spring. The Rococo Garden at Painswick, in the Cotswolds, is renowned for its magnificent display of snowdrops in February. This gem of a garden, which was originally laid out in the early 18th century, is set in a hidden Cotswold valley with magnificent views of the surrounding countryside. The Rococo Garden has one of the largest naturalistic plantings of snowdrops in the country.

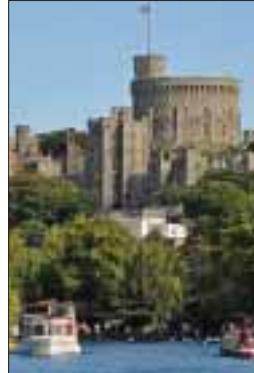
Your break starts when we pick you up from your local coach joining point. We travel to Royal Windsor where you will have time to explore and obtain lunch before continuing to our hotel in time to settle in before dinner. After breakfast the following morning we continue to Painswick



to visit the Rococo Garden with its magnificent snowdrop display. You will have plenty of time to enjoy the garden before rejoining the coach to head for home. We expect to return to your original joining point during the evening.

### INCLUDED:

- Visit to Painswick Rococo Garden snowdrop valley
- En-route visit to Windsor with time to explore
- 1 night 3-star hotel room with dinner & breakfast
- Return coach travel from Canterbury, Ashford, Maidstone, Tonbridge & Sevenoaks

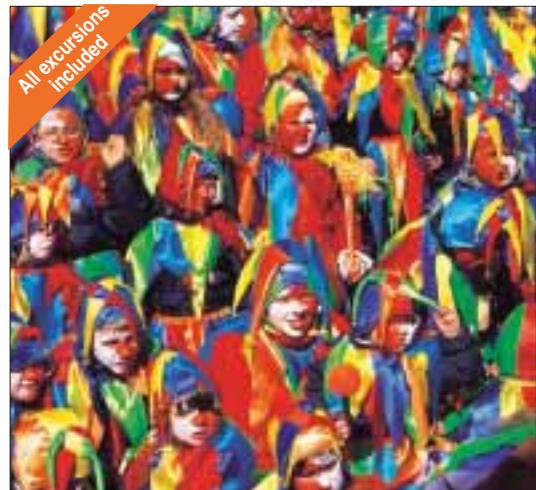


## Croatia's Opatija Riviera Carnival

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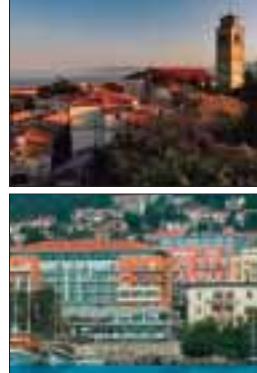
15 to 20 February, 2012

This holiday is based in the elegant resort of Opatija, on Croatia's Adriatic Riviera. Every year the region holds a series of winter carnivals, lasting several days. The events are colourful galas of traditional Croatian costumes and parades. We visit two of the best events, including the biggest - the Rijeka Carnival. We also take in some of the region's other delights, including lunch in a hilltop village. We stay in a 4-star seafront hotel in Opatija with dinner & breakfast included. We fly from Gatwick to Venice with coach transfers to Opatija included. The holiday is fully escorted abroad.



### INCLUDED:

- Return flights from London Gatwick to Venice
- 5 nights accommodation sharing a twin/double room with 5 buffet breakfasts, 4 buffet dinners and 1 gala dinner & masked ball.
- All excursions: Rijeka Carnival & Matulji bellringers parade; entrance to Trsat Fort; bellringers museum & souvenir making; lunch in Stara Posta Restaurant
- Services of a Tour Guide from arrival in Venice to departure
- All transfers abroad



## Carry on New Year Party

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6, 13, 20, 27 January, 2012

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### INCLUDED:

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- 2 nights en-suite hotel room
- 2 dinners & 2 breakfasts
- Entertainment both nights
- Indoor pool & gym (£2.50pp per day/£5pp per break payable at the hotel)



## Carry on New Year at the 4-star London International Hotel

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**SALE PRICE £109pp**

January 2 to 4, 2012

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breakfast each day, a 99p bar and entertainment both evenings. The Canary Wharf Health Club & Gym is a great way to keep in shape or relax. This fully equipped Leisure Club offers features a swimming pool, sauna and state of the art gym (£2.50 per day payable at the hotel).

All bedrooms have an en suite bathroom with bath and shower, TV, hairdryer, internet access and direct-dial phone.

The hotel is located outside the congestion charge zone.

### INCLUDED:

- En-suite accommodation
- 99p bar from 7pm to 11pm both evenings for house beers & spirits, wine by the glass, pumped soft drinks & mixers
- 2 dinners & 2 breakfasts
- Entertainment





## Meet the landlord who accepts only the best

**T**HE First & Last public house in Herne Common has become a popular destination for Kent's punters as a new owner looks to bring the good times back to the establishment.

Experienced publican David Sullivan has been in charge at the historic watering hole for the past six months and is looking to make another success of his latest venture.

The 43-year-old said: "I was born in a pub – this is what I do, I grew up in pubs. My mum and dad got out of the pub game and moved into a flat when I was about 14. Three months later, I moved out. I couldn't hack it – I had only ever lived in pubs and there was just no noise in the flat. So I moved back into the pub with my nan and grandad and I have been in pubs ever since."

And with five generations and more than 200 years behind him, Sullivan knows what makes a good pub.

He said: "The last pub I had was in Barnet high street called The King's Head. It wasn't a very nice place, so I got in there, turned it around and went on my way."

"I have been here for six months now and in my opinion this place was a bit of a dead duck."

"The pub is now clean, the atmosphere is right, there is new furniture and a bit of upholstery and I have put fresh food back in. There is nothing frozen other than the ice cream."

"The locals have their pub back and I just want to let other people find out about us."

And David already knows the area well: "My grandparents had a house just down the road in Beltinge for 40 years, so I grew up between here and London. I used to come in here as a kid."

The philosophy behind the First & Last is to create a welcoming atmosphere and a quality menu, something the new landlord believes is already under way.

He said: "The pub has always been known for its good food because it has always been the same chef, Martyn Beer."

"Martyn sets the menus – whatever he wants to cook is what comes out of the kitchen. I don't interfere with the food at all. The menus change when he wants to."

"The chef's knowledge of food and different cuisines has to be used. It's good having your steak-and-ale pies, but things like the Burmese curry you won't see in many other pubs."

David is keen to make sure the good standard of meals is maintained and continues to improve their reputation.

He said: "At least 90 per cent of my produce is local. The vegetables because we are obviously in the middle of Kent, and I was using a local butcher's shop for a while, but the quality of the meat went down, so I stopped. I am very fussy, I want the best. It has to be proper quality at a good price."

The eatery is complete with two stove fires,



traditional beams and Kentish ales adding to the warm and cosy feel.

There is also a function room for big parties.

He said: "We average around 90 covers on a Sunday afternoon, which is a lot of food."

"We have 12 permanent staff who are very good. This is the first time I have taken a pub on and not had to make changes to personnel."

"The food, that is what the pub is known

for, and the chef, he is brilliant. I hope to make it into a pub that when people drive past they think 'Let's go in there'."

"It's the little changes, and people are starting to notice."

■ **First & Last, Herne Common, Herne Bay CT6 7JU**  
**Telephone: 01227 364465**

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## Secret Garden hits 100 years Best Burnett

**Trinity, Tunbridge Wells**  
 Throughout December  
 01892 678678  
[www.trinitytheatre.net](http://www.trinitytheatre.net)

FOLLOWING last year's Christmas feature, The Adventures Of Mr Toad, Trinity Theatre is showcasing another children's classic for the festive period.

Celebrating its 100th year of publication, Frances Hodgson Burnett's The Secret Garden follows the story of spoilt, orphaned Mary Lennox, who arrives at Misselthwaite Manor to live with her reclusive uncle, Archibald.

Away from the watchful housekeeper, Mary discovers a key that unlocks a hidden garden abandoned years ago. The production features music by Steven Markwick and uses the best performing talent of the local area. Individual tickets start at £13 and family tickets are available.

## He's a top tapir Meet the boy from Brazil

**Howletts, Bekesbourne**  
 Open 9.30am-5pm  
 01227 721286  
[www.aspinalfoundation.org](http://www.aspinalfoundation.org)

KEEPERS at Howletts Wild Animal Park are celebrating the birth of a Brazilian tapir. Born just a week ago, the infant, who is yet to be named, is already venturing out into

his enclosure while his mother, Corumba, keeps a close eye on him. Hoofstock keeper Joel Bunce said: "This is Corumba's first calf, so I was expecting both of them to be quite cautious. However, the little chap is already exploring his enclosure and Corumba has taken to motherhood very well." Brazilian tapirs are born after a gestation period of 13 months and are found in the jungles and wooded swamps of Brazil, Colombia, Venezuela and Paraguay as they are essentially forest-dwellers.



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Jimmy Tarbuck

Tue 22 November



Four Sweethearts At Christmas

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## The Stylistics still live Soul giants hit town

**Winter Gardens, Margate**

Saturday, November 26  
 01843 296111  
[www.margatewintergardens.co.uk](http://www.margatewintergardens.co.uk)

THE Stylistics, with their individual charisma, style and harmony, evolved into one of the best-selling soul groups ever.

The Philadelphia group released a remarkable 10 straight Top 10 hits during the early 1970s, including the Grammy-nominated hit You Make Me Feel Brand New, the highly-regarded Can't Give You Anything, You Are Everything, Break Up To Make Up and I'm Stone In Love With You. This show will have soul fans dancing in the aisles at Margate's Winter Gardens.

The four-piece Stylistics will be supported at the gig by up-and-coming solo artist Jessica Clemons. Book your tickets to the show in advance.

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## DICKENS WORLD EVENTS

### Christmas Launch - Sat 12th Nov - 4pm to 6pm

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We invite you to visit Dickens World to meet our Christmas Elves,  
Father Christmas, our Snow White Pantomime characters, & enjoy watching a  
performance of 'A Christmas Carol' complete with indoor snow fall & much more.  
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Immortals 2D (15)	Tin Tin 2D (PG)	THE OTHER CINEMA Jane Eyre (PG)
Immortals 3D (15)	In Time (12A)	
Johnny English Reborn (PG)	Tower Heist (12A)	
Paranormal Activity 3 (15)	Twilight: Breaking Dawn part 1 (TBC)	
Real Steel (12A)	Book Now. Released 18th Nov	

For times and films, please call the film line on 0871 22 44 007 or visit [www.odeon.co.uk](http://www.odeon.co.uk)

For all Dickens World information and online bookings, go to [www.dickensworld.co.uk](http://www.dickensworld.co.uk) or call 01634 890421





## Charley Boorman live Tales of adventure

### The Orchard Theatre, Dartford

Monday, November 21, 7.45pm  
 01322 220000  
[www.orchardtheatre.co.uk](http://www.orchardtheatre.co.uk)

TAKING some time out from traversing the globe, Charley Boorman is visiting The Orchard Theatre for one night only. Self-professed modern adventurer Boorman brings his hugely entertaining show on tour in the UK and Ireland, offering an evening of personal stories, Hollywood anecdotes and tales of adventure from his worldwide escapades – there's something for everyone to enjoy. Boorman is well known for his popular TV shows, books and DVDs of Long Way Round, Race To Dakar, Long Way Down and By Any Means with Ewan McGregor. Billy 'Biketruck' Ward hosts the evening, while Boorman answers those awkward questions.

## Young artists Exhibition on the seafront

**The Grand,  
The Leas, Folkestone**  
 Until Sunday, November 20  
[www.folkestoneartsociety.co.uk](http://www.folkestoneartsociety.co.uk)

FOLKESTONE Art Society introduces The Rita Benson Young People's Award Exhibition, aimed at artists aged between four and 21. The FAS will be holding its

annual autumn exhibition with the theme of Inside, Or Outside, Or Inside Out, and entries will be hung in the Green Room at The Grand.

These pieces can be viewed from 10am to 5.30pm daily except on Thursdays, when the exhibition is open until 7.30pm. The entries will be judged by the artist Janet Aldis. Visiting students will be asked to vote for their favourite piece. The prize-giving will be on Tuesday, November 22, where Robert Benson will present four prizes of £100, plus other smaller awards.



## The man who left the Titanic A tough call?

**Memorial Theatre,  
Broadstairs**  
 Sunday, November 20, 7pm  
 0845 2626263

ON April 15, 1912, the Titanic, the greatest ship in the world, slipped below the frigid waters of the Atlantic on her maiden voyage. Yet Bruce Ismay, managing

director of the White Star Line, stepped into a lifeboat and sailed away from the disaster. This new show, The Man Who Left The Titanic, evokes that terrible voyage and asks whether Bruce Ismay only did what any of us might have done in the same circumstances – or should his actions that night consign his name to infamy? Was he a coward, or merely human? Tickets are £10.50 for Sarah Thorne Theatre Club members, and £12.50 for non-members.

## Riot of comedy Finest acts will rock the Wells

**Trinity Theatre,  
Tunbridge Wells**  
 Friday, November 25, 8pm  
 01892 678678

THE new Blind Pig's Comedy Trot Out starts at the Trinity Theatre in Tunbridge Wells later this month. The show offers a mix of comedy, sketches and stand-up routines.

The opening show will feature some of our top comedic talent, including Brett Goldstein, McNeill and Pamphill, Gary Tro, Kate Lucas and local comedian Elinor Lawless. The show will be compered by MC Garrett Millerick. The Blind Pig's Comedy Trot Out is the brainchild of local actor Peter Basham. Having spent many happy evenings accompanying his wife Elinor Lawless to gigs around London, he had the idea of bringing some of the best acts he had seen to Tunbridge Wells. For details, visit [www.blindpigscomedytrotout.com](http://blindpigscomedytrotout.com).

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- Tue 8 Sally Morgan
- Wed 9 Shakin' Stevens
- Thu 10 Numberjacks
- Sun 13 Chris & Pui Roadshow
- Sun 13 Boot Led Zeppelin
- Wed 16 Dave Gorman
- Thu 17 Show of Hands
- Fri 18 Brubecks Play Brubeck
- Sat 19 Royal Marines Band
- Sun 27 The Stylistics
- Tue 29 Madama Butterfly
- Wed 30 La Traviata



### DECEMBER HIGHLIGHTS

- Sat 3 Beyond the Barricade
- Sun 4 Jerry Sadowitz
- Sat 10 – Sun 31 Sleeping Beauty



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## JB Priestley's classic calls Party-pooper

**The Churchill, Bromley**  
Tue to Sat, November 22-26  
08448 717620  
[www.atgtickets.com/bromley](http://www.atgtickets.com/bromley)

WINNER of 19 major awards, An Inspector Calls arrives at The Churchill in Bromley this month.

The National Theatre production of this renowned allegorical tale will bring the critically-acclaimed show from Oscar-winning director Stephen Daldry that offers an evening of compelling drama packed with suspense. When Inspector Goole arrives unexpectedly at the prosperous Birling family home in Brumley, a peaceful dinner party is shattered by his investigations into the death of a young woman. His startling revelations shake the foundations of their lives and challenge us all to examine our consciences. Written in 1944 by the playwright JB Priestley, An Inspector Calls premiered in the West End in 1945.



## Folk music Are pair barn to be wild?

**Kingston Barn, Canterbury**  
Friday, November 11, 7.15pm  
01227 831493  
[www.folkinthebarn.co.uk](http://www.folkinthebarn.co.uk)

RECENTLY hailed by folk legend Seth Lakeman, Phillip Henry and Hannah Martin are two musicians with a growing following on the folk scene. Top slide-guitarist Henry is

has joined forces with singer-songwriter and banjo-player Martin to weave folklore and legend into beautiful melodies. The pair have recently worked with Judy Dyble (Fairport Convention and King Crimson) as well as appearing live from Maida Vale studios for a special edition of BBC Radio Three's Late Junction and they are regulars on the festival circuit, having appeared at Glastonbury, Cambridge Folk Festival, Broadstairs Folk Week and many others. Tickets are priced at £11 in advance (£1 extra on the door).



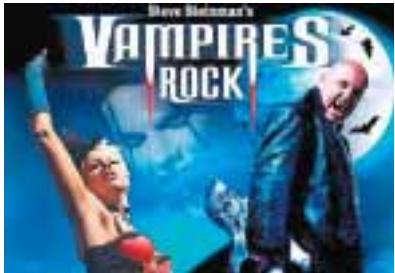
## Why the Sixties will never die Top line-up

**Leas Cliff Hall, Folkestone**  
Wednesday, November 16  
08448 471776  
[www.leascliffhall.org.uk](http://www.leascliffhall.org.uk)

THE Sensational 60s Show is a new production for 2011 and heads to Folkestone next week. A fantastic array of original hits is performed by four of

the most popular bands of the 60s, The Tremeloes, Herman's Hermits, The Union Gap and The Dreamers.

This quintessential 60s line-up is packed with nostalgia, with more than 25 hits such as Silence Is Golden, Twist And Shout, Here Comes My Baby, Do You Love Me, Helule Helule, Even The Bad Times Are Good and Angel Of The Morning. These groups were some of the most influential of their time, so you can relive an evening true to the 60s... when pop music was at its best (maybe).



## The vampires rock on It's musical mayhem

**The Orchard Theatre, Dartford**  
Tuesday, November 15, 7.30pm  
01322 220000  
[www.orchardtheatre.co.uk](http://www.orchardtheatre.co.uk)

WITH a twist of rock and a hint of comedy comes a show like no other. Vampires Rock, the hit show, will be at The Orchard Theatre next week.

Steve Steinman's show is full of rock anthems, including We Will Rock You, Bat Out Of Hell, Since You've Been Gone, Devil Gate Drive, I Love Rock'n'Roll and Sweet Child Of Mine. The musical is set in New York in 2030 and the undead are among us and more alive than ever, especially inside the club Live And Let Die, where aspiring singer Pandora arrives to audition for the resident vocalist position. Little does she know that the only job on offer is to be the eternal bride of evil Baron von Rockula.

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**ANN WIDDECOMBE**  
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# Subdued feeling to market despite slight rise in values

THE latest house price index from Nationwide building society has revealed that prices rose by 0.4 per cent in October on a monthly basis.

On an annual basis, house prices are now 0.8 per cent higher than this time last year – representing the first yearly rise in six months – with the average UK home costing £165,650.

However, when comparing prices in the three months to the end of October with the previous quarter – which is a more reliable indicator – prices fell by 0.2 per cent.

According to Nationwide, today's figures suggest the housing market is still "treading water".

Nationwide chief economist Robert Gardner said: "The outlook remains uncertain, but with the UK economic recovery expected to remain sluggish, house-price growth is likely to remain soft in the period ahead, with prices moving sideways or drifting modestly lower over the next 12 months."

In other housing-market news this week, property website Hometrack said weak demand drove house prices down 0.2 per cent last month and



warned of a downward trend in house prices in the coming months.

Also this week, the Bank of England revealed that mortgage approvals fell in September for the first time in six months.

According to the Bank, there were 50,967 loans approved in the month – down 3 per cent on August's figure.

However, September's figure was broadly in line with forecasts and suggests the UK mortgage market

will remain subdued for some time to come.

Approvals still remain well below the levels seen prior to the financial crisis.

Since the early 1990s, mortgage approvals have averaged about 90,000 a month, but the credit crunch saw a tightening of lending criteria and many have been unable to secure a mortgage unless they have a significant deposit.

## HOMEVALUES

In this third part of his series, **Martin Cunningham** MNEA, commercial director of Archant's property portal, **homes24.co.uk**, introduces another useful new function built into homes24, now powered by **Zoopla**

HOMEVALUES is a free tool that enables users to get an online estimate of value for any UK residential property.

HomeValues provides home-value estimates by crunching sold-house price data from the Land Registry and marketed property values.

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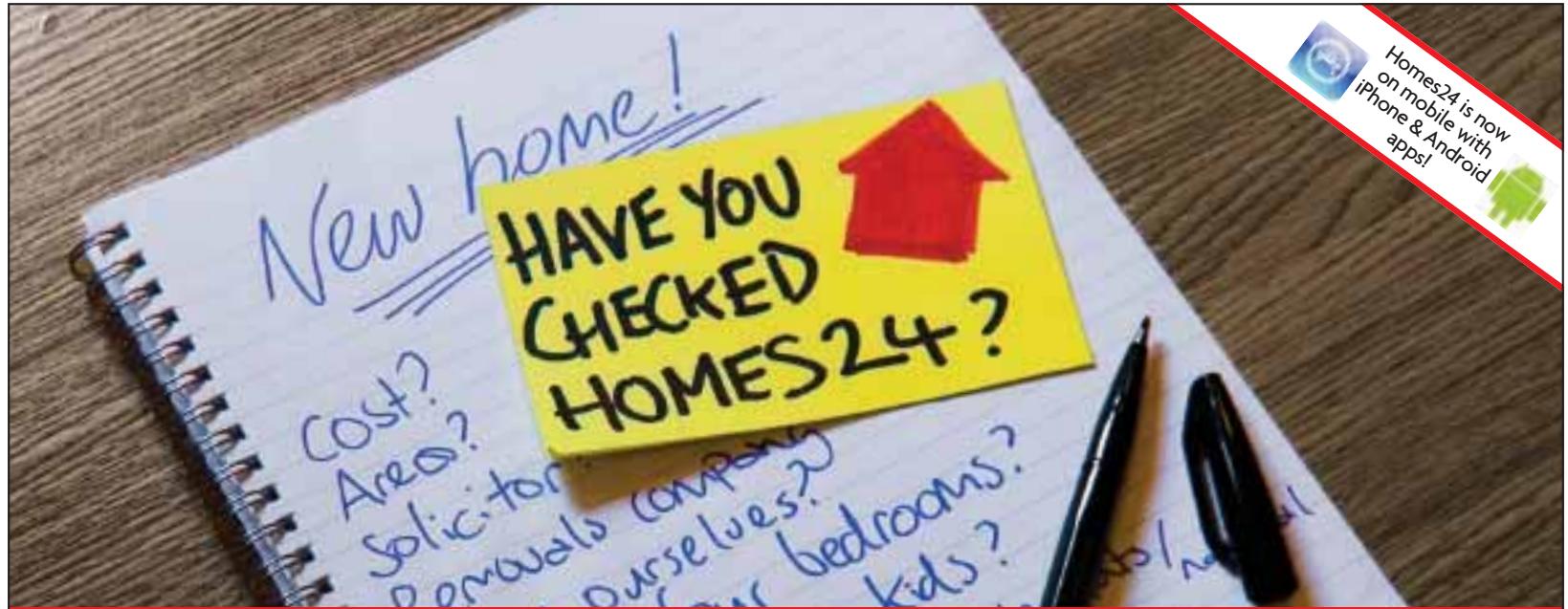
home, as a good local agent will have knowledge of any other matters that may influence the potential value of the property.

HomeValues is, however, a great way to gain an idea of your home's price performance against the rest of the market.

You can try HomeValues for yourself for free by visiting the site at <http://bit.ly/h24homevalues>.

Alternatively, scan the QR code at the top of the page.

Until next week...  
Martin



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FEMALE 58, widow, attractive, seeking mature gent, 60 plus with GSOH for companionship. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 379649

CAT 37 slim, athletic open minded feline seeks mate 20-45 for good times, laughs and spontaneous fun times. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 379563

TRACY good looking, brunette, employed, own flat, likes nights in/out, travel, WLTM outgoing male for holidays, laughs and good times. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 379505

SARAH 39y old female looking for a little extra out of life, seeks discreet male in similar circumstance to enjoy intimate mutually respectful relationship. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 379557

LYN romantic lady looking to be loved by similar romantic lonely heart with no expectations, call me. Looks/age/status unimportant. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 379533

JO slim attractive dark haired female 33yrs, likes gym, theatre, WLTM older man for fun loving relationship, good times in and out. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 379531

ANN attractive lonely widow, OHAC, solvent, no ties, looking to put some good old fashioned romance back into her life. ACA. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 379527

LAURA 52, cuddly, loyal, caring, honest, seeks gent to share good times with. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 379427

MONICA cuddly blue eyed blonde, 65, 5ft 3ins, NS, enjoys usual activities, animal lover, seeks tall, well built, NS animal loving male for company, fun and laughs, possible LTR. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 379285

48YR old female, slim, caring, animal lover, seeks tall, caring male for relationship. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 379007

MAVE young 73y old widow, attractive, seeks tall, solvent gent, 65-75 to share good times. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 378799

YOUNG 73y old widow, attractive, seeks male, 55-75 for good times. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 378785

KAREN 58, 5ft 6ins, medium build, fun loving, romantic, caring, extrovert, seeks male of similar age for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 378795

TALL long haired brunette, slim attractive, big green eyes, WLTM gent for mutual companionship, maybe leading more, age/looks unimportant. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 376559

MIA attractive slim fit female looking for someone to put the spark back in my life, seeking fun, adventurous and passionate male. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 376557

LINDA 68, N/S, likes nights in, meals out, holidays, GSOH, seeking a gent 60-70 for LTR. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 375651

JANE passionate lady seeking unconventional young at heart male 35-50 for free spirited, open-minded fun and new experiences. Single dads welcome. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 375611

LIBBY 36, newly single, no hang-ups, WLTM, outgoing male to wine/dine and forever be mine. Don't miss out! Call me. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 375607

TASHA 37, blonde tanned and very pretty, seeks well dressed older male with GSOH for fun meets, loving treats and more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 375605

LESLIE 34y old singleton, fun and vivacious looking for laughs/giggles with some great company. If you like the sound of me, pls call. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 375579

JULIE 38y old Irish female who is lonely as new to the area, looking for male up to 65yrs for title companionship. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 375489

KATHY 48, likes cinema, theatre, seeks male, 60-70 for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 375557

NATALIE blonde blue eyed nurse, 39yrs medium build, no ties, life is good but I'm missing someone to love and lust after. Can you help? Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 375589

ANNETTE likes cinema, theatre, seeks male, 60-70 for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 375476

JULIE 38y old Irish female who is lonely as new to the area, looking for male up to 65yrs for title companionship. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 375489

JO bright bubbly attractive country loving lass, looking for solvent older male to have a really good time with. Is that you? ACA. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 375473

DONNA lost my faith in men and looking for someone feisty to reignite my fire, are you the one, call me, what's gonna to loose? Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 375475

KELLY blue eyed 21y old blonde looking for someone who knows how to treat a lady for fun times together, 30-50yrs. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 375703

CHRIS attractive slim redheaded seeks nice male to relax with, get to know and share a glass of wine, and maybe a takeaway. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 375701

CHARLOTTE 30, sweet French female, long legs, sporty, fit and healthy, seeking well built, fit guy to share interests and show me new ones. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 375687

AMANDA cuddly 36 old easygoing caring lonely female just looking for love with nice guy, 30-55yrs. Nothing ventured, nothing gained. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 375133

LORRAINE single mum new to the area starting again, OHAC, GSOH, WLTM nice guy to cuddle up with and appreciate, maybe more. Single dad welcome. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 377097

LAURA slim attractive stylish female, GS0H looking for similar to enjoy good times with. Discretion expected/assured. Any age/status. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 375159

SANDRA green eyed slim brunette, loves to keep fit, very competitive, seeks reliable mature male who can look after me and be loved in return. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 375159

CAROLINE 31, attractive, slim but curvy Brunette, witty and fun, seeking relaxed, mad for fun times together. Age/looks unimportant. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 375094

HILLI 26yrs, blue eyes, blonde, bored of spending nights in alone, looking for average looking male, 23-35yrs for TLC. Dads welcome. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 375007

DEBS petite Brunette, 38yrs, well travelled, loves food and good wine, WLTM affectionate male for nice times. Status unimportant. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 373229

CHRISTINE attractive 49y old female, N/S, caring, GSOH, genuine, seeks male partner of similar age to share life with. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 373997

JEANETTE big brown eyed busty female 21 with lots of interest, searching for a sincere man to share love and life with. ACA. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 374703

JENNY very young shy black female, looking for reliable, genuine nice older man to help me become an attentive lover. 40-70yrs. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 378737

MATTHEW guy looking for love, fun and frolics, afternoon delight or any time day and night. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 388450

MALE 51, slim, retired, seeks female for friendship and se- and possible relationship. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 387986

SPONTANEOUS 50 something younger, slim female, no ties for male, seeks partner for fun and friendship/relationship. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 375295

SERENE slim black attractive female, 37, friendly, likes reading, nature, theatre, music, WLTM gentle, caring, N/S gent, 34-47 to share laughter and life. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 369411

CAROL, 39yrs attractive slim brunette just looking for genuine caring, meals in and maybe more. Any age. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 375575

KATHY 48, likes dogs, walks, cinema, seeks male of similar age for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 388300

FEMALE 74, 5ft 1ins, artistic, versatile, seeks nice caring gentle friend, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 378465

47YR old female, slim, seeks tall male for relationship. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 372783

JENNIFER the gent from Eastbourne please contact Dawn again as I have the wrong number. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 375157

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LISA 19 curly brown eyed Brunette looking for a fun relationship with caring male up to 67

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- Passatt drops name for latest incarnation
- Chevrolet starts the festive sales early



Ford picks up some new buyers with latest Ranger

# Driving

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**REVAMPED:**  
The new Mazda3 is better than ever, not only looking good but offering a better drive, too

## Mazda3 facelift beauty is more than skin-deep

By Sam Davison

editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

THOUGH Mazda is happily using the term 'facelift' to describe the revamp of the Mazda3, it is perhaps a rare example of a carmaker under-playing its hand.

For the operation here has been more than the simple cosmetic exercise of tweaking the front grille and aerodynamics to extract additional fuel savings.

The big changes are hidden away and only become clear on the road, where what was already one of the best driver's cars in the family hatchback sector is now even better. This has been achieved, says Mazda, by revising underfloor reinforcement to boost rigidity, stability and composure and cut road noise.

The dampers have also been tweaked to better handle increasingly poor road surfaces, benefiting both comfort and driving precision – the last also being helped by some fettling of the steering system.

Combined, this makes the Mazda3 feel like a car from the class above. Indeed, the market perception for some time has been that despite keen pricing – the revised car goes on sale in early 2012 priced from £14,995 – the Mazda

**MAZDA3**

**Price:**  
£14,995-23,395

**Driving appeal:**

★★★★★

**Image:**

★★★★★

**Space:**

★★★★★

**Value:**

★★★★★

**Running costs:**

★★★★★

**Reliability:**

★★★★★

**How green?**

★★★★★

**Best rival:**

VW Golf

**1ST DRIVE**

occupies a more premium slot slightly above mainstream brands, though sitting below the VW Golf.

However, Mazda execs at the launch event couldn't resist pointing out that they recently took No 1 in the German JD Power customer-satisfaction survey – a home defeat for the Golf.

And this perception can only get better as the Japanese marque pays more attention to cabin fixtures and fittings; facelift interior cosmetics include a higher-quality dashboard with easier visibility and order to match the strides taken by some rivals, notably Peugeot and Vauxhall.

But the brand that revels in its image as Japan's sporting brand has also extracted more from the new-look Mazda 3's powertrains and added an all-new and more sensible 1.6-litre petrol auto model – replacing a thirsty 2.0-litre.

The pick continues to be the 1.6-litre diesel, though. A lightweight unit with 115PS/113bhp on tap, it blends decent performance with excellent economy and tax efficiency and has a smooth six-speed gearbox.

It makes it harder to argue a case for the flagship 2.2-litre diesel – in 185PS or 150PS – which feels heavier and less flexible, though its ability to cruise the motorway with ease and good economy will entice high-mileage users.

**Lancia's back but has changed to Chrysler's name**

IN a marriage of convenience, Lancia has returned to the UK partnered with a Chrysler badge.

The match suits both parties: the Lancia name was tarnished by adverse publicity in the UK about rust problems in the late 1970s, while restructured Chrysler badly needed small-car offerings in a post-recession market.

And Italy's Fiat group now runs both brands – it took a controlling interest in Chrysler two years ago – and was matchmaker here.

For now, the new Chrysler (Lancia) line-up comprises the Ypsilon supermini (from £10,695 and pictured) and Delta family hatchback (from £16,695), with the latter reviving a famous Lancia name – the Delta Integrale is regarded as one of the greatest-ever rally cars.

Despite distinctive looks and they won't be to everyone's taste – both cars are Fiat derivatives: the Ypsilon is based on Fiat's

big-selling 500, while the Delta is an expanded version of the under-rated Bravo family hatch.

However, both cars are being pitched upmarket yet aggressively priced; Lancia has always been seen as an innovative, more premium and stylish brand against Fiat, and this also fits Chrysler's traditional position versus other brands in the old US-owned namesake group.

Apart from being well-laden with kit, both cars are being marketed with lots of customising options – an attraction likely to work well for the Ypsilon, which finds itself up against other distinctive small cars that offer the same, such as the 500 itself and BMW Mini.

Another big selling point for the Ypsilon is the availability of Fiat's clever 85bhp TwinAir engine – an eco-friendly turbocharged twin-cylinder petrol unit that can be both frugal and sporty and offers road-tax-beating low emissions of CO<sub>2</sub>.



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\*Not available on Expression, ES, ES Tech models. \*\*Finance Deposit Allowance not available on Astra GTC. Model shown is New Astra SRI 5dr. Finance provided by Vauxhall Finance, a trading style of GMAC UK plc, PO Box 6666, Cardiff, CF15 7YT. Finance is subject to status, terms and conditions. Applicants must be 18 years or over. Offer applies to private individuals, Vauxhall Partners and small businesses 1-24 (purchase only excluding B2B). All other customers are excluded. Offer available on orders or registrations before 19 December 2011. †Vauxhall Lifetime Warranty covers lifetime ownership of first registered keeper, 100,000 mile limit. Terms and conditions apply.

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**VAUXHALL**





# Honda's hot hew hybrid makes its sporting point

By Sam Davison

editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

HONDA has a tradition of producing one-off sports cars. The nearest to a sequence was two generations of CR-X models, though they couldn't have been more different.

The first (1984-1992) was a slick 2+2 fastback that bucked the trend for hot-hatches, but this gave way to a strict two-seater open-top (1992-97). It was a great drive, too, but ridiculously impractical.

Far from founding a sporting dynasty, though, it was two years before the Japanese marque launched a new sportster and it was all-change again: the S2000 (1999-2009) was what many would call 'a proper sports car' with rear-wheel drive chassis, long bonnet/cropped tail, peppy engine and folding soft-top.

It paid homage to classic British roadsters as Mazda's MX-5 still does. Unlike the Mazda, though, early S2000s erred towards the tail-happy handling of those old Brits but compensated with an engine that revved like a Honda motorbike – this gorgeous-looking roadster is a future classic.

And now to the latest twist in the Honda sports-car story, the CR-Z (from £17,695). Arriving in 2010, it looks most like the original CR-X, having a stylish low-slung 2+2 fastback body – it even has a similar split-glass tailgate – but any discernable lineage ends there, for this is an eco-friendly petrol-electric hybrid, albeit one with a manual gearbox, unique on the hybrid market at present.

So what's the point? If you like a sporty drive, why would you want a hybrid?

Yes, the CR-Z is a rolling contradiction, but it articulates a thought I always have when road-testing a fast car: how many negatives about the car must you endure all of the time so that you can enjoy rare occasions when you can indulge its sportiness?

## HONDA CR-Z GT: PRICE £20,820



### GREEN AND SPORTY:

Honda's new hybrid sports car may seem like an odd choice, but it certainly fights its own corner for speed and efficiency

Admittedly, the CR-Z is no sprinter. It takes about 10 seconds to hit 60mph, but a Mini Cooper takes a second less while a Cooper S knocks three seconds off.

However, if you want a Mini as green as the CR-Z, then you need the Mini diesel, which has inferior performance and doesn't look like a sports coupe even if the cabin size is better than the Honda.

And the CR-Z certainly handles well for an eco machine. It's based on Honda's staid Ford Focus-class hybrid, the Insight, but company engineers have checked their racing notebook and tweaked the chassis to fit the parameters I sketched earlier: it's comfortable and easy-going 90 per cent of the time and delivers the required edge when you want it.

Perversely, the CR-Z also turns the hybrid ethos on its head because the 14bhp electric motor that's there to eke out the fuel consumption of the 112bhp 1.5-litre petrol engine also

acts like an instant turbocharger when you put your foot down.

Helpfully, Honda has also provided three driver 'mood' settings: Eco means what it says so the accelerator feels like it has been disconnected, but you will save fuel – as the typically busy Honda dashboard will let you know.

Normal does what it says on the tin, and Sport unleashes what beast there can be contained within what is intentionally an eco sports car.

The key to ultimate happiness, though, is the sporty and light six-speed gearbox; maybe not every buyer of a hybrid wants an automatic?

Simon Lacey, sales manager at Barretts Honda of Canterbury, told us: "The CR-Z appeals across the spectrum, to those who want a hybrid and those who like sports cars."

"And yes, that electric motor also offers a stack more torque [pulling power] when you want rapid acceleration. Driving a CR-Z always puts a smile on my face."

## FACT FILE

Image:

Space:

Value:

Reliability:

How green?:

Road tax: £30/year, first year zero

Best rival: Mini Cooper D

Kent dealers:

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## First GEAR

### MOTORING NEWS



### Fastest-ever on-road Astra

VAUXHALL has unveiled the Astra VXR, due in early 2012.

Based on the newly-launched Astra GTC three-door coupe hatchback, it will be one of the most powerful cars in its class and the fastest-ever production Astra. Power comes from a 2.0-litre turbo petrol engine, with a mechanical limited slip differential to control the 280bhp output to the front wheels.



### VW launches stylish CC 2G

VOLKSWAGEN will replace the current Passat CC with another stylish vision of four-door coupe style, arriving in the UK next March.

This time, though, the German car giant has decided not to burden such an eye-catching car with the same name as its rather staid Passat family saloon/estate car range – it will be known simply as the Volkswagen CC.



### Chevy begins festive cuts

CHEVROLET has declared a Christmas sale early – through November, buyers can save up to £6,000 in the American brand's Bargain Bonanza.

There are price cuts on the Spark city car (1.0+ model £6,875), Cruze family hatch/saloon and seven-seat Captiva SUV (pictured). Biggest savings are on the high-spec Captiva 2.2 VCDi LT – £21,695.

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# Ford picking up on new pick-up buyers

MOTOR manufacturers now recognise that not every buyer of a pick-up truck has a lumberjack shirt and a builder's bum.

Four-door-cab Nissan Navaras and Mitsubishi L200s – aka Warriors and Animals – became hits with private buyers who wanted 4x4 and something different, and VW upped the ante recently with the classy Amarok.

And now Ford has raised the stakes with an all-new Ranger, which claims to offer superior driving dynamics and has become the first-ever pick-up to receive the maximum five-star Euro NCAP safety rating, performing well on adult and child passenger as well as pedestrian protection.

Driver appeal comes from a stiffer frame and tuned suspension to reduce body roll, allied with new front and rear suspension. A new steering system delivers more precision,



easier parking and low-speed manoeuvring, while Ford says the new Ranger (priced from £15,515 excluding VAT) is one of the most comfortable and quietest pick-ups, due to intensive work to cut wind and road noise

The vehicle's design chief John Tatge said: "For tradition-

al pick-up buyers, the benefits are huge, with no compromises in payload capacity or towing ability.

"For customers coming from other segments who expect smoother, more refined road handling, the all-new Ranger delivers, with less of the harshness typically found."



## Zafira to hand fun back to drivers

NOT so long ago, the concept 'sporty MPV' was a contradiction in terms.

These people-carriers then majored on capacity and visibility from a cabin mounted higher than the average car – not taut handling.

But the penny dropped eventually that not all MPV-buyers wanted to sacrifice driver enjoyment for the sake of those two benefits.

Ford countered with the Ford C-Max and S-Max, Seat launched its Altea series and Vauxhall's second-generation Zafira was more dynamic – and the General Motors brand has now gone one stage further with a second and more upmarket version.

Shown as the Zafira Tourer concept at this year's Geneva Motor Show, it arrives here before the end of the year, priced from £21,000 (diesels from £22,265) up to £28,465.

It will be marketed above the current Zafira, which is nearing the end of its production life, so we wait to see where its replacement will sit relative to a new big brother based on Vauxhall's big Insignia family-car model.

Styling-wise, the new Tourer is another triumph from Vauxhall-Opel's British design chief Mark Adams and his team, with rakish lines to match its claims as a driver's MPV.

But it still carries the seven-seat foldaway flexibility summed up by Vauxhall's now-familiar Flex-7 branding and, this time, all three second-row seats are individual and allow for movement to give extra room to those in the third and final row.

Safety is another major credential for a car designed to carry more people: Traffic Sign Recognition, Side Blind Spot Alert and Advance Park Assist – which helps drivers find an adequate parking space and guides them in to it – are among options. There are also two new powertrains – a 1.4 Turbo petrol and 2.0 CDTI diesel (in three outputs).

And Vauxhall claims "limousine-like quality and space" inside, but it is the aggressive pricing that will attract buyers particularly, especially as the lead-in figure is £1,200 less than its key rival, the Ford S-Max.

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But this became seen as a restrictive practice by the European Union, which brought in legislation in 2002 that made it illegal for car-manufacturers to insist on their cars being maintained solely by their franchise network to keep the guarantee intact.

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# Dealers say 'me too' to quick-fit centres



MAIN dealers have hit back at the quick-fit/fast-fit brigade as drivers shop around for the best deals on motoring extras.

Such fast turnaround chains blossomed as drivers aimed to keep control of their motoring budgets by saving on the biggest motoring 'consumables' such as exhausts, tyres, batteries, clutches, shock-absorbers and routine services, plus the annual MOT.

But main dealers have reckoned that if car-owners are still using their service bays, then they won't mind considering realistic deals on tyres, batteries and exhausts, for instance, to ensure a time-saving one-stop shop purchase.

Using the main dealer also guarantees that only genuine manufacturers' parts are used, bringing the confidence of additional quality and reliability.

And that same guarantee, plus realistic pricing, has encouraged having bodyshop repairs done either by the franchise's own panel-beaters and paintshop or one that gets its seal of approval.

Main dealers have also borrowed from their quick-fit rivals by offering menu pricing: this means that, like dining out, a customer can decide what he wants and knows in advance what it will cost – avoiding any motoring indigestion when the bill is presented.

Some dealers will even let you spread the cost via finance or servicing schemes covering several years.

Others may offer a loyalty scheme to keep



**BE PREPARED:** A Seat Alhambra MPV faces the winter driving challenge – Seat dealers are among those supporting industry-body Tyresafe's campaign to awaken drivers to the benefits of winter tyres

owners of older models on their books rather than see them defect to the non-franchised sector, because those owners believe that the lower value of their car does not warrant the higher perceived cost of main-dealer servicing.

Another trick borrowed from the quick-fit sector is longer working hours at main-dealer service centres: dealers are much more aware

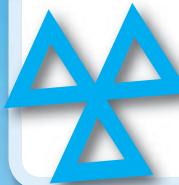
that many customers want to drop off their car early on their way to work and then pick it up at the end of the day – a courtesy car may even be offered.

Bookings can often be made centrally, too, so that customers living midway between two franchised dealers within the same group can pick the most convenient service slots available.

**PRICING:** Vauxhall MasterFit dealers are playing quick-fit centres at their own game by offering competitive deals on consumables such as tyres

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# Car-care best practice – our top tips

YOU can't argue that driving a modern car is a much more forgiving and comfortable experience than it was just a few years ago.

The downside, though, is that much less can be done by the DIY mechanic; keeping the car in reliable, correct and safe condition is now more of a job for the professional and, of course, it costs.

Unfortunately, this means owners often ignore problems for too long and servicing is stretched beyond the recommended parameters, which also endangers the warranty and the provenance of the vehicle when you come to sell.

So, the golden rules are:

- Maintain the service record to the letter. Get it serviced at the correct mileages or annually and make sure the servicing book goes with the car to the service and can be easily found and is properly stamped up, although some motor marques are switching to centralised digital records so a car's servicing record is always available if required.

- Read the warranty document thoroughly to ensure there are no possible pitfalls that could endanger the guarantee.

- Make sure you act on any recalls from the manufacturer for checks or replacements, even if they do not relate specifically to safety – it will help maintain the warranty and future saleability of the car.

- Don't rely on the MOT as insurance of the car's safety and reliability, even if it has just passed with flying colours – problems can arise at any time and you should get



**YOU AND YOUR CAR:** Look after yourself, too. Main dealerships like this Lexus centre, left, are pleasant places to be while you wait to collect your car. The Skoda Superb Estate, right – the Czech brand continues to win customer-service awards for its models and the support of an enthusiastic dealer network

them checked as soon as possible.

- Check lights regularly for safety and legality. Get used to 'lighting up' in the garage or when you are nosed in or backed up to a wall.
- Check tyres – including the spare – monthly, and that includes the correct pressures as listed in the handbook or the sticker often placed on the driver's side-door frame. Though the legal tread-depth is 1.6mm, most motoring authorities advise replacement at 2mm, especially in winter when icy and

wet conditions can compromise grip.

- Keep oil, windscreen-washer, coolant, power-steering, clutch and brake fluid levels topped up without over-filling, and make those checks on level ground. Don't wait for warning lights to come on – it could be too late to stop damage or compromise safety. Some cars have an interim set of warning lights, but these can be an unwelcome reminder if you are in the middle of a long journey at the weekend and miles from a decent garage. Don't be caught out.

- Replace wiper blades. There is little point in keeping the washer topped up if the blades are worn or split. But if the windscreen is covered with bugs and grease, don't expect the washer and wipers to do the job for you – use a spray and some elbow grease.

- Shop around for servicing. Even if you are committed to main-dealer servicing, it does not mean you have to go back to the one where you bought the car – some are better on pricing and customer service than others.



## BE PREPARED THIS WINTER WITH BARRETT'S LAND ROVER WINTER CHECK

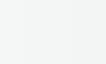
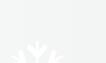
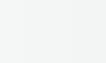
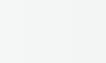
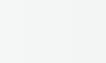
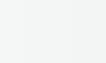
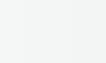
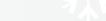
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## Hi-tech cars call for higher-spec technicians

INCREASINGLY complex vehicles and a shortage of skills in the jobs market has made the main-dealer technician a hugely important part of a main-dealer operation.

Sarah Sillars, executive chair of the trade's Institute of the Motor Industry (IMI), said: "The rate of technological change in the automotive industry is being driven by competition, consumer demands and regulation. This is creating

a constant requirement for businesses to anticipate change and invest in training to help staff keep pace with developments."

The body has also developed a Consumer Code Of Practice system to promote and maintain professional standards, while its sister organisation, the Society Of Motor Manufacturers And Traders (SMMT) has published a paper, Strengthening Skills For A Growing Economy, that calls on

the Government to help feed the demand for the necessary skill sets and ease unemployment at the same time.

Most motor-manufacturers are highly proactive in finding and promoting technicians within dealership networks – many will be sent to special sites and plants run by the companies in the UK and abroad to test their skills and attain the highest qualifications.

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# Fix your servicing costs for peace of mind

ONE of the best weapons picked up by main dealers has been the fixed-price service plan.

Initially, it was a trick tried by premium brands whose service costs were perceived as too pricey and taking advantage of an owner's natural reluctance to jeopardise the future value of the car by servicing outside the dealer network.

But it has been increasingly successful for more mainstream brands as they battle a burgeoning independent and quick-fit sector, only too happy to siphon off the steady churn of servicing work.

The plans are also flexible. Initially, they were to cover the car's warranty period – transferable in the event of the car's sale – or on an annual basis, but many brands have followed up with monthly instalment options, recognising that many drivers like to break down their



**DEAL:** Buy a new Alfa Romeo Giulietta and get five years'/50,000 miles' free servicing thrown in

motoring budget into more manageable chunks of money.

Premium brand Jaguar, for instance, offers a servicing plan for less than £28 a month, but the trend has divided still further, with some brands launching schemes for low-mileage drivers who, quite rightly, don't feel they are covering enough distance to justify the same charges faced by those covering average or starship mileages.

Fiat, for instance, has launched the FEEL3 range of plans for motorists who cover less than the average annual mileage of about 10,000 miles per year.

Topping this is sister brand Alfa Romeo's proposition to private-car-buyers: buy one of the sporting marque's MiTo supermini or Giulietta family hatchback models new and get five



**QUALITY:** Jaguar offers affordable monthly service plans on desirable cars like this XFR



**CHOICE:** Fiat has freed up service options for lower-mileage drivers of popular models like the 500 years'/50,000 miles' free servicing (whichever comes sooner).

Best advice is to ask your main dealer about the menu of schemes available and get advice on the pros and cons of each one. The blurbs for

such schemes use the word 'policy' a lot, for that is virtually what they are: insurance policies for servicing and the vehicle warranty – a cost-effective but necessary part of the month-by-month/annual cost of running a car.

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# Quality needs to shine

VEHICLE-BODY repairs used to be a minefield for everyone – even motor-dealers.

Pricing each job relied on rule-of-thumb expertise in the bodyshop and what unforeseen damage was beneath the visible impact damage.

Fortunately, new visual and digital analysis systems have come into play over the past 15 years and created a level playing field to reassure drivers, dealers and insurers.

It has also led to networks of approved bodyshops, which customer and trade alike are happy to trust with what can be expensive work requiring a guarantee of quality.

Not surprisingly, with the customer-satisfaction stakes so high, many dealers run their own shops or have close ties with an insurance-company approved site.

And while the damage-assessment work has become easier and more controlled, other factors have come in to play requiring quality and good practice to be maintained and improved.

One of these is the use of new



paint technology, which has extended the palettes available to manufacturers – new metallics and pearlescent finish paints are increasingly popular – and also improved health and safety for those working in bodyshops.

In addition, in the quest to save weight and make cars

more eco-friendly, many manufacturers are building aluminium and composite materials into their cars now, again changing the way bodyshops work.

No wonder, then, that customers, the motor trade and insurers are preferring to rely on experienced bodyshop experts.

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<b>Front brake pads and discs replaced</b>	<b>£239</b>
<b>Rear brake pads/shoes replaced</b>	<b>£129</b>
<b>Rear brake pads and discs replaced</b>	<b>£229</b>
<b>Cambelt change (every 4 years)*</b>	<b>£319</b>

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# Dealer service history – is it worth it?

IT takes time to familiarise yourself with the jargon of the used-car classified ads, but the importance of DSH, MDSH and FMDSH soon becomes clear.

For those yet to be initiated, they are all variations on the theme 'dealer service history' with FMDSH being the gold standard – full main-dealer service history.

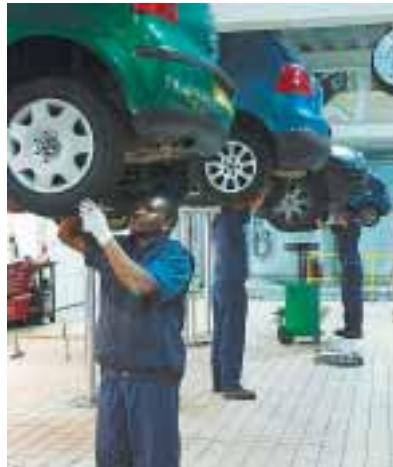
Does it matter? Well, a lot of new-car-buyers think it does in order to protect the future part-exchange or secondhand-sales value of their motor, since used-car-buyers will usually pay a premium for a complete and unblemished main-dealer service history.

The counter-argument, of course, is 'Ah, but you wiped out that perceived premium by paying more for your servicing via a main dealer while you owned the car'.

It's a point, but dealers have seen sales profits squeezed ever more tightly since the recession and have chosen to market their servicing arms more aggressively.

They've become more cost-effective, enhanced customer service, introduced competitive pricing on items like tyres – normally the preserve of the quick-fit centres – and played to the perception that only a main dealer's service technicians can know its cars as well they do.

And dealers know that happy service customers keep coming back, bringing immediate revenue but also seeing the latest new car models on the showroom floor – one day soon, they may buy again.



**VALUE:**  
From left:  
Maintaining  
your Citroën  
C3 Picasso  
through  
your local  
franchise  
could mean  
it's worth  
more when  
you sell; VW  
technicians  
at work  
– ramping  
up the values  
of these Golf  
hatchbacks?

Third-party sources also support the wisdom of keeping your new car in the franchise family.

Media motoring guru Honest John gave this answer to a BMW-owner who considered using an independent garage to maintain his car:

"After independent servicing, you will get a lower part-ex price from a BMW-dealer and it will go to auction. If the car has a full dealer service history and is in retail condition, you will get a higher price.

"The difference will normally be worth more than you save on maintenance."

On the same theme, the website Motor Trade Insider polled a number of professional motor traders who collectively buy 5,000 cars per year for main dealers representing franchises such as Jaguar, BMW, Ford, VW and Mercedes:

"We asked a simple question: if you were asked to bid on a three-year-old variant of one of your models with average mileage and spec, would

you value it any less if it had three KwikFit/Halfords/Tesco etc stamps against three stamps from the franchise represented by the car?

"The results in some cases were staggering: the Ford- and VW-buyers said they would value a car like this between £800-£1,000 less.

"The Jaguar-buyer said it would need to be £1,500 to £2,000 less and, amazingly, the BMW and Mercedes boys said they probably just wouldn't want to buy it."

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**OFFER:** Hyundai has raised the stakes on warranties – models like the new i40 Tourer come with a five-year/100,000-mile guarantee.

## Warring car-makers battle it out on the warranty front

NEW cars are covered by a warranty.

For years, the standard was three years and/or 60,000 miles, but a recent outbreak of 'warranty wars' between car-makers has seen both the years and mileages increase.

It's a good reason for car-buyers to shop around, but some of the new deals also reinforce the old adage to check the small print.

This will confirm exactly what the manufacturer will and will not pay for if the car breaks down within the agreed time period or mileage.

And this makes it imperative that the car-owner also sticks to the rules by keeping the car serviced according to the warranty and also taking note of and acting on any recall notices for unforeseen faults and problems.

Some marques are more lenient about late servicing than others, but a common pitfall is to have the car serviced only by mileage, when most manufacturers now insist that the car is serviced annually if the required miles are not being covered.

You don't have to use a franchised dealer for servicing – this stipulation was thrown out by

**UP TO DATE:**  
Make sure you keep the service schedule up to date to maintain the warranty on the family workhorse like this Nissan Qasqhai (top) ... and the advice applies equally to commercial vehicles like this Mercedes-Benz Sprinter van



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